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The Preparation of a Table Chicken.

TO TRANSFORM a poor, ill-conditioned chicken into one that is plump and juicy takes about three weeks; that is, of course, provided that the fatterer knows his business and has a suitable foundation to work upon. There are some chickens that, were they subjected to the fattening process for three months instead of three weeks, would be quite poor at the end of the time, just as there are other kinds of stock which, however carefully prepared, and however well fed, can never be brought into really good killing condition. It is remarkable, nevertheless, what can be accomplished in this direction, and I have many times seen the most unpromising chickens transformed into excellent table birds. There is, however, no advantage in trying to work upon unsuitable material, and to achieve the most satisfactory results, financial and otherwise, care should be taken in the selection of the birds that are destined for fattening. A matter that should never be overlooked in this connection is as regards the proportion of bone and offal to flesh. Some breeds are very heavy boned, while others possess small and delicate limbs, and naturally those of the latter description are the more suitable. The following table gives the proportion of bone and offal to flesh in a few of the different varieties:

	Weight of meat on fowl 6 mos. old.		Weight of bone, etc. on fowl 6 mos. old.	
	lb.	oz.	lb.	oz.
Cochins,	4	9	5	4
Brahmas,	4	10	5	3
Dorkings,	5	4	4	13
Game,	3	15	2	7
Hamburges,	4	15	2	7
Houdans,	5	7	2	10
LaBresse,	3	7	2	8

Another thing to be considered is whether the breed lends itself readily to fattening. Some varieties will never add on flesh, and naturally such should be left severely alone.

The Early Stages.—As already mentioned, to transform a thin chicken into a plump one takes about three weeks, the first ten days to a fortnight of which are spent in the outside cages. These cages measure about 6 ft. long by 18 inches wide, and a similar height. They are made altogether of bars of wood, with the exception of the roof, which, for outdoor work, requires to be solid. Each cage accommodates eighteen chickens, so it will be realized that there is not much room for exercise. As a matter of fact, this is the reason for cooping them up so closely, since the less they move about the more quickly do they add on flesh. A V-shaped trough hung on the outside, and some sacks or canvas blinds to place over the front of the cages during hot or wet weather complete the equipment so far as the outside work is concerned. Feeding takes place twice daily, dividing the day as nearly as possible into two equal parts, and the food is placed in the trough hanging to the cage. Immediately there are signs, and these are easily recognized, that the birds are losing their appetites, forced feeding must commence, for once they have reached this stage they will speedily begin to lose flesh if the trough feeding is continued any longer. A matter of great importance, but one that is often neglected, is that the chickens should be starved for at least eighteen to twenty-four hours when first placed into the outside cages. This is necessary to insure the birds eating heartily for the first part of the fattening period. If they are fed at once they never eat so well afterwards, and consequently they do not fatten so well. When food is withheld for twenty-

four hours the birds are very keen for their first meal amid such strange surroundings, and this keenness generally continues for about a couple of weeks. There is another point of importance during the early stages, and that is that absolute cleanliness must be observed, not only with the appliances, but with the birds themselves. Nothing retards fattening more than dirt. It stands to reason a bird cannot thrive well if infested with vermin, and this is often the cause why such unsatisfactory results are achieved. When the chickens are first of all placed in the cages, and again when they are removed from out of doors to within the shed, they should be well dusted with a disinfectant powder, special attention being devoted to the feathers under the wings and on the back just in front of the tail.



A PAIR OF FATTED FOWLS.

The Cramming Process.—A very considerable trade is carried on in the marketing of half fattened chickens, and many find that it pays them better to kill the chickens at this stage, that is, when trough feeding is finished, than to retain them for ten days to a fortnight longer, and cram them. Of course, half-fattened birds are greatly improved both as regards quantity and quality of flesh, but they are a good deal inferior to those that have been crammed. There are plenty of markets, however, where prices range low, and where there is no demand for fully fattened birds. In such cases, half fattened chickens yield the greater amount of profit. When the process is going to be completed, the chickens are removed to cages in a shed, once their natural appetite fails them, and there they are crammed for a week or ten days, the exact time depending upon their condition when the forced feeding commences. Perhaps in this point more than in any other are skill and experience requisite. There is a day, almost an hour, when the birds are ripe, and if they are not killed at the right moment they begin to go back, and no amount of fattening can bring them up again to the same state of perfection. There are several methods of cramming commonly adopted in different parts of Europe, between which there is little to choose so far as results are concerned. Machine feeding is necessary when a large number of birds is being treated, as feeding by pellets or by funnel

takes so long, and the profit is swallowed up in the labor bill. When only a few chickens are being prepared either the pellet or funnel system is suitable. As in the case of trough feeding, cramming takes place twice daily, convenient hours being 6 A. M. and 5.30 P. M. This divides the day very equally, and enables one to finish work in good time. The shed in which the birds are being crammed should be particularly well ventilated, as owing to the presence of a large number of birds in a very small area the air quickly becomes foul and injurious to the health and well-being of the inmates. Semi-darkness, too, is beneficial, and, almost needless to add, the birds should be disturbed as little as possible. Of such importance do many fatterers regard this latter point that they never allow a stranger to enter the shed in which their chickens are being prepared.

The Best Foods and Their Preparation.—Meal and not grain should be supplied to fattening birds, for upon the latter the production of flesh is slower, while it is hard and of inferior quality. Besides this, since the birds are very closely confined they cannot digest grains so easily, and a larger proportion of the food supplied goes to waste. Our experience in this country is that oats, ground extremely fine, is the very best food for the formation of first class quality flesh. It produces meat of a splendid color, quality, texture and flavor, and birds so fed are almost invariably able to command higher prices than those fed upon inferior foods. It is a somewhat expensive meal, it is true, but this is comparatively a small matter when the flesh it produces is so extremely fine. Barley meal, wheat meal, (called middlings, top-pings, pollards, seconds, or dan in this country), and maize meal are extensively used by those turning out second grade birds. A mixture that I have seen used by some fatterers consists of one-third ground oats, one-third barley meal, and one-third maize meal. Whatever is used should be mixed with sour skim milk into a consistency of cream, the exact thickness depending upon the method of feeding adopted. For trough, machine, and funnel feeding, it has to be fairly liquid, while for pellets it should resemble paste. Sour skim milk is much better than sweet; the birds eat longer and digest their food more quickly, while it has a medicinal effect, maintaining the blood cool and the internal organs in good working order. Some fat should be added to the food during the last fortnight of the fattening period, as not only does it encourage the formation of flesh, but it softens that already there. None is supplied during the first week, but commencing with the first day of the second week—that is, the eighth day—a quarter of an ounce per bird per day is added to the food, or one eighth of an ounce at each meal. This quantity is gradually increased until, by the end of the second week, each bird is receiving double the quantity, and by the end of three weeks one ounce per day is being supplied per bird, or half an ounce at each meal. Once a week during the period of fattening, it is a good plan to supply the birds with a little grit, in order to assist in the digestion of the food. It should be about the size of small peas, sharp, of course, and not smooth, and may consist of flint, glass, or any similar material. Green food, while not by any means necessary, may be sometimes given to the birds. Cabbage leaves, the outer leaves of lettuce, or the like, answer the purpose admirably and should be given the birds chopped up, about once a week. Notties, chopped up, boiled, and mixed with the food in the proportion of one pound for every dozen birds, has a very beneficial effect.

Killing, Plucking and Marketing.—Killing should always take place where the birds have been fattened, for if they are sent away alive they depreciate considerably both in quality and actual loss of flesh. No food whatever should be supplied to the bird for twenty-four hours previous to killing, in order that the crop and intestines may be quite empty. The effect of the starving is to improve greatly the flavor and texture of the flesh; besides this, a well starved bird keeps sweet for a much longer time than one that contains any food in its crop or intestines. In very hot weather thirty-six hours starvation is none too long, but ordinarily a day is sufficient. Of the two methods of killing, that by dislocation of the neck is the more commonly employed. The method of knifing is rather more complicated and certainly much dirtier, but it has the distinct advantage of allowing the blood to drain away more freely, leaving the flesh whiter and of a finer flavor. When killing in the latter way the bird is placed on its back on a table,

its mouth is opened, and the point of a sharp knife is inserted into the slit in the roof of the mouth, and given a sharp press, entering the brain. The bird has then to be hung up for about ten minutes in order to allow all the blood to drain away. Both methods of killing are quite instantaneous, and hence perfectly painless. Plucking should begin as soon as possible, since one minute while the body is warm is worth ten minutes when cold. The removal of the feathers should be done as carefully as possible, for any tears in the skin greatly damages the appearance, and thus reduces the value. It is extremely important to hold the bird's head down the whole time that plucking is proceeding, particularly when killing by dislocation of the neck, as only in this manner will the blood drain away from the body. When all the feathers are removed, the bird should be shaped, and the most usual method of doing this is by means of a shaping board, which consists of a series of troughs, one above the other, in which the birds are placed,

breast downwards, the heads hanging over the front, with the wings and legs in their natural positions. The troughs are made of two pieces of wood, seven or eight inches wide, placed together at an angle of about 60°, the back piece of wood being fastened flat against the uprights. A loose board is placed on the backs of the birds, with a heavy weight resting thereupon, and here they remain for about twelve hours, until they are quite cold. The chickens are now ready for market, and should be sent away immediately. They should be carefully packed, and I think it pays to wrap each bird in a piece of grease proof paper or a linen rag. This insures their arriving in good condition, and increases their value. It is of the utmost importance to remember that all the heat must have left the body before the birds are packed; otherwise they arrive in a flabby and soft condition.

E. T. Brown.

Maine Experiments With Cross-Bred Poultry.

(Continued from August Number).

REMARKS along these lines might be greatly extended, but I think I have said enough to show that there is a reasonable basis for objection to treating barring as even presumably behaving differently in inheritance from other types of markings, and to show why one who has had occasion to give general (though necessarily somewhat superficial) attention to the inheritance of color patterns cannot accept such ideas as that barring is a "unit character," and that the barred female cannot, or does not, transmit barring to her female offspring until much more evidence than has yet been given has been secured. In saying this I do not want to be understood as disparaging what has been done. I have the highest appreciation of both the ability and the reliability of the investigators at the Maine Experiment Station, and believe that their methods of applied Mendelism are working toward the combination of the truths of Mendelism with what was of permanent value in "pre-Mendelian" knowledge of the subject of heredity. But I also have a great deal of respect for many facts, and apparent facts, with which their results or conclusions do not seem to fully accord, and I cannot be blind to the fact that the experimental work under discussion, while the best in that line to date, has not covered all conditions.

Thus in regard to the transmission of barring by females to their female offspring. The results of breeding the black cross-bred pullets with males of both crosses and of both pure breeds, support this theory. But it must be noted that the Cornish Indian Game is a very dark black-red type, and further, that in the barred cross-breeds the dark pigment is described as overflowing and, as it were, running out of the pattern. Now, though no trace of barring could be discovered in the black cross-bred females, it must be admitted that it is not impossible that if lighter birds had been used, the cross-bred pullets from a black-red male and a barred female might perhaps come barred, or if they came black, some of their offspring, when mated with a black-red male might come barred. The point is one that can be determined experimentally only by making crosses of very light colored birds. Suppose that instead of a Cornish Indian Game male we take a "pullet bred" Brown Leghorn male, as light in color as we can get, and instead of an average Barred Rock female, take a female as light as would ever pass for an exhibition female, and cross them. Would we still get black pullets without a trace of barring? If not, what would we get? Or suppose we mate a White Leghorn male with a Barred Rock female. According to the theory, the pullets must come white without a trace of barring. But in experiments in cross breeding, made recently at Cornell, the results as described by Prof. C. A. Rogers, in a paper "Data on the Direction of the Cross," published in the Sixth Annual Report of the American Breeders' Association, the results were not in accord with this theory. I quote from the paper mentioned:

"In the progeny from the (White) Leghorn-on-Plymouth Rock cross there was a decided breaking up in color. The young chicks showed all colors from pure white, white with black spots, and solid gray, to the characteristic light and dark color of the pure bred Barred Plymouth Rock. The white colored down was replaced by white feathers, and the common light and dark down by barred feathers, but the gray was replaced by a combination of pure white, creamy white, gray and imperfectly barred feathers. Of these fowls, 7 were white, 13 spotted, 10 gray, and 16 barred. Of the barred birds, 8 were pullets and 8 were cockerels. Furthermore, our pedigree records show that these varicolored offspring did not necessarily come from the same parents, but that in many instances the same parent in the same hatch produced one or more of all the above

percentage of infertile eggs from the Barred Rock-Cornish cross was very low—only four per cent—the percentage of infertile eggs from the reciprocal cross Cornish-Barred Rock was six times as great—twenty-four per cent—and was about twice as great as the highest percentage of infertility from either of the pure matings of the breeds used in the cross. After giving reasons for rejecting the supposition that the infertility might be due to peculiarities of individual birds, the authors of the bulletin make this most interesting suggestion:

"A suggestion which occurs to one in this connection is that the Cornish Indian spermatozoa do not find the Barred Plymouth Rock oviduct so favorable an environment as they do the Cornish Indian oviduct. It is a well known fact that in gallinaceous birds the spermatozoa from one copulation fertilize a number of eggs. In order

that this may occur, the spermatozoa must live and remain in vigorous condition in the oviduct of the female for a considerable period of time. In the present instance there may be a lowering of the vitality of the Cornish Indian spermatozoa due to a lack of adaptation to the conditions presented by the Barred Rock oviduct. The significant factors in such a case would probably be of a chemical character. It is conceivable that the secretion of the Barred Rock oviduct may be too acid or too alkaline to give the best results for the Cornish Indian spermatozoa."

This suggestion is the more significant because of the observation at the Ontario Agricultural College that the highest fertility from hens fed different rations in an experiment came not from the meat fed hens, (as would be expected on the com-

mon theory that animal food tends to increase fertility), but from hens fed milk. I cannot at present refer directly to a report on this, but my recollection is that the milk used was sour.

To my mind the significance of the suggestion in regard to the relation acidity or alkalinity of the secretion of the oviduct to fertility does not depend at all on breed differences. The real question is independent of supposed breed qualities. It is a question of the condition of individuals or of stocks, of the possible effect of any peculiar quality in the secretion of the oviduct on spermatozoa lodged in it, and of the influence of food or any other factor on the secretion of the oviduct.

If it can be shown, as it perhaps might be by chemical analysis, that the secretion of the oviduct of one hen was different in any respect that might affect the vitality of spermatozoa in it from the secretion of the oviduct of another hen, one of these hens giving good fertility and the other poor fertility; and if it should further appear that as between two stocks of hens compared, such a difference in secretions was characteristic and seemed to be correlated with fertility, the condition in one case being favorable to high fertility, and in the other unfavorable, the practical inference is not that the difference noted is a breed difference, but that it is due to



Outdoor Fattening Crates Where Birds are Placed During the First Ten Days of Fattening.

combinations of color. Not one of the 12 Plymouth Rock parents throughout the hatching season gave a uniformly colored progeny. The color variation existed among the birds of both sexes. The barred plumage was lighter than standard, and although the bars were distinct, the light bars between the darker ones were somewhat grayish in color, so that a slaty effect was given to the whole."

Plainly such results as these must be taken into account in any consideration of the Spillman theory, which, from the practical breeder's point of view, is so preposterous that it requires much more evidence to support it than has yet been produced. To the experienced breeder it is quite unthinkable that inheritance of any character should be "sex-limited" in the way this theory assumes inheritance of barring is in Barred Plymouth Rocks. Instances which seem to confirm such a theory only seem to him special instances which may be explained without this theory, or which cannot be considered as of special significance until corroborative evidence accumulates to such an extent that serious consideration of the theory becomes imperative.

A point which may turn out to be of much value is brought out in a discussion of the fertility and hatching of eggs from the different pure breeds and their crosses under investigation. It was found that while the per-



some environmental cause. Such an environmental cause might be recent, or it might be of long standing.

We may suppose that in the case of the Plymouth Rocks, and the Cornish Indian Games used in the Maine experiments there were environmental causes of long standing which might account for differences in secretions of the oviduct, or in the blood, or of any organ. The Plymouth Rocks were of stock grown for generations at the station, on one kind of soil, by one general system of feeding. The Cornish were from stock grown for generations in Illinois or another soil by another system of feeding. It would be interesting, and should be informing, to follow a point of this kind up—but that is work for the investigator, not for the reviewer.

Quoting again from the bulletin. "Turning now to the consideration of the hatching quality of the eggs in the two different crosses, it appears to be the case in the present statistics that the *fertile* eggs of either Barred Plymouth Rock or Cornish Indian Game females are more likely to *hatch* if they are fertilized with spermatozoa of the other breed than if they are fertilized with their own spermatozoa. That is to say, in these experiments the percentage of fertile eggs hatched was higher for the cross fertilized eggs than for either of the pure breeds under the same environmental conditions, regardless of the direction of the cross. * * * In other words, the cross bred germ cell (fertilized ovum) appears to possess greater developmental vigor than does the *pure* germ cell. * * * These hatching records * * * furnish a novel kind of evidence of the well known phenomenon of greater vigor in crossbreds."

On my own experience in crossing fowls, and I have made many different crosses, and grown many hundreds of cross-bred birds, I have to reject the theory that, as a rule, cross-breds are more vigorous than their parent stocks. I have seen conspicuously weak cross-breds come from conspicuously vigorous parents that had produced that season pure stock as vigorous as themselves. There was no apparent reason for lack of vigor in the cross-breds, except that the stock did not "nick" in that respect. My general observation of crosses, which, after years of trial testing out the popular theory that first crosses make better layers than pure breeds led me to discard crosses altogether, was that in rate of growth and development they were, with rare exceptions, intermediate between the parent breeds (or stocks): that the pullets, after starting to lay, might lay as well, or better, than either parent stock for a while, but they had not, as a rule, the staying quality of the thoroughbred. We have had cross-breds that were remarkable layers, and kept it up; but far more of them fell away behind the pure bred stock after the first spurt.

Egg production alone is not a test of vigor, but I think capacity to stand the strain of egg production may fairly be taken as a measure of vigor, and in this (in my experience) average good pure bred birds are distinctly superior to average good cross-breds. If I wanted data to show the contrary, I wouldn't know where to go for it. All that I know of that has been collected on this point indicates the superiority of pure bred stock.

But leaving this phase of the question, and my experience, out of consideration, and taking it as a fact that in this experiment the cross-bred stock appeared to be more vigorous—to have the greater vitality, it is a fair question whether this greater vitality was not due to the mingling of stocks grown under different conditions rather than to the fact that the stocks were of different breeds. It has long been held by many fanciers that the best way—the safe way—to introduce "new blood," to overcome the ever-debilitating effects of monotonous conditions of life, is to get back some of their own stock that has been away from their premises for a season or two. It is believed that in this way the benefits of new blood, that is, slightly different blood, are secured without going outside of the original blood lines. Often breeders of the same variety in different parts of the country make a working arrangement by which this plan of keeping up vitality is worked systematically. The general testimony is that it works well.

Now in most cases cross-bred birds are produced from parent stocks, either one or both of which were not

grown on the premises, and so get whatever advantage there may be in bringing together stocks from different environments: but my crossing was done mostly with stocks accustomed to the same environment for several generations, and so seems to me to show better the influence of breeding.

In this bulletin, as generally in reports of experimental work, the fact is emphasized that the birds compared were *all fed the same*. I may not see this from the right point of view for an investigator, but I have long thought, and often said, that this was not the right condition for a test of either breeds, varieties, types, or individuals for any other purpose than to determine what they would do under the same conditions. The *same conditions* and the *same feeding* may not fairly test vigor or productivity. If the birds compared are of distinctly different types, they may require different treatment or different feeding to show what they can actually do. The difference may not be great, but it may still be necessary.

The Barred Rock stock used in this case was classed as good laying stock—as typical of a good laying breed. The Cornish stock was classed as inferior laying stock, but there were, in the records of the Cornish hens for the first winter, some hens described as "exceptionally high winter layers for that breed." Owing to the presence of these hens among the Cornish, and to the fact that the Barred Rocks at the Station had been just pre-

nish in the second year, suggests very strongly that something in the conditions or the handling did not suit birds of this game type. From my experience with and observation and study of different classes, breeds, varieties, "strains," and individual fowls, and, I might add, different poultry keepers, I find it difficult to conceive of a hen not being a good layer unless there is some special reason for it.

By a *particular* reason I do not mean a rare reason—something of rare occurrence; but a reason which is not a general reason. Breed character, if we allow that, would be a general reason. Any unsuitable condition, or error in handling, would be a particular reason, and there are scores of such things which singly or collectively might prevent good egg production. Inasmuch as appearances seem to indicate that hens of the type to which methods at this station had been adapted, laid better than hens of a somewhat different type, I would not accept the difference as showing the actual laying capacity of the birds until it had been shown that such a difference was approximately maintained when other methods were used, and with other men in charge. Those few good layers in the original Cornish stock are a stumbling block in the way of my acceptance of the later results with this type as characteristic of the stock. I've spoiled good laying stock through errors in breeding, but I never saw stock go off badly in production from other causes, but it might have been remedied, and so I am loath to accept this verdict against

this type of fowl until a sufficient effort has been made to determine whether different treatment would give different results. *Heavy laying* "strains" or stocks of Indian Games have been developed by several breeders of the White variety, but I cannot recall any special claims of this kind made for the Dark Laced Cornish. When the boom in that variety was on about 1890, the general claim of extraordinary laying was made for them—as it is for almost every variety when introduced. General experience with them at that time was that they were rather poor layers, but it is possible that the true explanation of this is to be found in the fact that the stock was practically all from recent importations from England. The British fancier is notoriously indifferent to egg production, and the British exhibition stocks of most kinds of fowls are usually rated poor layers, or poorer layers than stocks of the same varieties from the Continent or from America. Some authorities attribute the poor laying quality of British exhibition stocks to the types of those stocks. Characteristic features of some exhibition types do unquestionably affect egg production as well as other qualities. But there is nothing in the Cornish Indian Game type inimical to good laying, except that extreme development of breadth and of bone to give the massive appearance desired, might sometimes result in making stock so coarse and clumsy that it was not easily kept in laying condition. Specimens of this kind are seldom seen in America. Indeed, I think the fault with most of the stock is just opposite. I have long been of the opinion that this Game type of fowl would be one of great serviceableness and value if developed as a general purpose fowl.

The inheritance of shank color is discussed as "correlated" with beak color, and as "furnishing another instance of sex-limited inheritance." It is noted that "the data parallel exactly those for the inheritance of barring," but the true significance of that fact seems to have been missed. The coloration of shanks and beak are correlated because both are correlated with coloration of plumage. In other words, the question of pigmentation should be discussed as to all external sections containing pigment, for all are affected alike. The phenomena of coloration of beaks and shanks in a case like this do not furnish additional evidence corroborative of similar evidence derived from the phenomena of plumage coloration. They merely show that when birds differing in degree of pigmentation are compared, the difference is, in a general way, the same in the same sections of the birds. This is true, not only for solid colored birds and for birds with a uniform pattern like that of the Barred Plymouth Rock, but normally for all colors and patterns



INSIDE A FATTENING SHED.

vious to that time "in poor condition as regards egg production," the difference in egg production the first year was not as pronounced as in the following winter. The results the second winter are taken as typical, and from them the conclusion is drawn that the Cornish are distinctly inferior as layers, and that this is "an innate, breed difference."

The question naturally arises, if there were some exceptional layers among the Cornish Indian Games, as they came from the breeder of the stock, why did the Cornish stock fall off so rapidly in that respect? This question gains importance because of the results secured from the cross-bred pullets. The barred cross-bred pullets, daughters of Cornish females and Rock males, and in form resembling the Rock rather than the Cornish Game, were relatively good layers. The black cross-bred pullets, daughters of Rock females and Cornish males, and more resembling the Game in shape, were relatively poor layers. "In other words, the cross-bred pullets whose mothers were good layers are themselves poor layers, while those whose mothers were poor layers are themselves good layers." These results are taken to show "that winter egg producing ability is inherited in these cross-breds in a manner essentially like that in which the barred plumage pattern is inherited."

Leaving inheritance out of the question, and considering only appearance, we find that the best results in egg production were secured from hens of, or approximating, the prevailing type at this Station, which type happens to be Barred Rock; while the poorer results were secured from hens of, or approximating, a different type—the Indian Game type. To my mind, this suggests, and, taken with the falling off in egg production of the Cor-



Bateson is cited for two instances of sex differentiation of color of shanks. "From many signs we know that there exists some complex relation between the color of the shanks in fowls generally, and sexual differentiation. Some years ago we described a case of this kind in which the Indian Game male crossed on White Leghorn female always gave offspring yellow shanked like both parent breeds. But White Leghorn male crossed on Indian Game female gave cocks yellow shanked like the parents, while hens came with a good deal of pigment in the shanks, ranging to nearly a full black. Another case illustrating this relationship between sex and shank color is to be seen in the newly made breed called Black Leghorn. According to the fanciers' ideal, both sexes should have full yellow shanks. There is no difficulty in getting this quality in the cocks, but hitherto clear yellow shanked hens have been rare, and the same difficulty is encountered in breeding Black Wyandottes."

He might have added, and every other black fowl in which a yellow leg is desired, and also every variety of fowl strong in black pigment.

Accuracy as to facts is not Bateson's chief virtue. He is rather prone to state facts to suit him—I had almost said to make them. His knowledge of the phenomena of inheritance in poultry is neither extensive nor accurate. The Black Leghorn is not a "recently made breed." It is not true that there is *no difficulty* in getting clear yellow shanks in males of this or any other black breed with yellow legs. Good clear yellow shanks are rare in black fowls, but the shanks of the males are, as a rule, much better than those of the females. But, though Bateson's "facts," and his deductions from them, are often questionable, he has a faculty of making general statements of propositions which well express the real point at issue. Such a statement is that which introduces the above quotation: "From many signs we know that there exists some complex relation between the color of the shanks in fowls generally and sexual differentiation." The statement is not broad enough, for, as has been shown, it is not a question of pigmentation in any particular section, but of general pigmentation; but it brings out the point that in males and females of the same breeding, there is a difference in pigmentation which seems to be regulated by sex.

It seems to me that the best place to study this matter is in pure breeds, not in cross-breeds, and that to get at the true explanation careful consideration must be given not only to the cases where pigmentation is strongest in the females, but to those cases in which it is strongest in the males. I don't want to put myself in the position of appearing to speak positively on a point I have not given any detailed study, but speaking from general observation it would appear that whether black pigment is present or absent, the male always has more yellow (or red) pigment than the female, in plumage as well as in legs and beak. Then in a white fowl with yellow legs the male has the stronger color, but in a black fowl with very dark legs the shanks of the male may be so dark that (assuming that the female has more black pigment) the difference would not be apparent to the eye, nor would a slightly greater amount of possible yellow pigment in the shanks of the male so modify the color that a difference in shade would be noticed.

Another point having a possible bearing on the differences of color in shanks of males and females when these are so conspicuous as to afford some warrant for assuming that shank and plumage color behave independently, is that there appears to be a characteristic sex difference in regard to the tendency of pigment to distribute through the outer coverings of the bird. This comes out most clearly in a study of the natural type of coloration,—the black-red type, the similar black-white pattern, and their various modifications. Comparison of these patterns, and of sex differences in them, shows very plainly that the feminine tendency is toward a blending of pigments in every section and on every feather, while the masculine tendency is toward the separation of pigments making each section pronouncedly strong in one kind of pigment, as if the pigments in the male were antagonistic, while in the female they were harmonious, and the behavior of the pigments simply an expression of those characteristics of sex sometimes described as *maleness* and *femaleness*.

Bateson's statement also suggests inquiry as to whether sex differences in pigmentation are inherited as such, or are differences in development due to sex, as it is commonly assumed that other sex differences are. Sex differences in pattern do not develop as a rule until the male begins to put on his adult plumage. Until that

time male and female are the same in color. Yet as between a male and a female of the same breeding, though the pattern may be the same, the difference in quantity of pigment, and—as it is usually considered—of black pigment, is apparent from the time the chicks are hatched. Further, the female, much more than the male, is likely to show, during growth, an undesirable excess of dark pigment which, as she approaches maturity, may largely disappear.

It was noted in this experiment that all the cross-bred chicks were black, or nearly black, and that the black was all over the chick; whereas in all chicks of pure black breeds the under part of the body and the breast are canary colored. The extraordinary blackness of black cross-bred chicks when hatched has long been a matter of common knowledge, and it has often been observed that in crossing two breeds both having considerable black pigment, though not black, the offspring is likely to be black or darker than either parent. Considering results in cross breeding only, it would appear that crossing tended to increase pigmentation. It is quite possible that this is so, but it must also be remembered that in the breeding of black fowls, the regular tendency is to produce offspring more strongly pigmented than the parents, and that the mating of jet black and jet black often results in such an excess of pigment that apparently the feather cannot hold it uniformly distributed, and purple bars appear in the plumage. The phenomenon here is not peculiar to black color or to color. It is quite the regular thing in heredity whenever male and female alike in any character or combination of characters are mated. The whole system of breeding to a fixed standard is based on the principle that when once a desired standard is reached, development can be held at the desired point only by interposing a check, which is done as soon as over-development in any direction appears by mating slightly over-developed to slightly under-developed individuals.

The data on the inheritance of comb form and the discussion of that matter are of special interest, because of their bearing on "dominance." I quote from it:

"In the cross-breeds here discussed, we have the results of crossing two distinct comb types. * * * With the rediscovery of Mendel's law of inheritance in 1900, one of the first characters to receive investigation was the comb form of domestic fowls. The cross between single and pea comb was studied by several investigators in the cross-breeds between a number of different breeds of poultry. In his latest work on the subject, Bateson has the following to say regarding the inheritance in the cross of single by pea. 'The first generation from pea by single is pea, that character manifesting a definite dominance. The heterozygous pea combs are generally higher than the pure pea, and may usually, though not always, be distinguished from them. Sometimes the heterozygous pea comb is so large, and has the ridges so ill defined, that it approaches the single type; but combs which cannot at once be referred to one class or the other are extremely rare. The distinction is especially sharp in the case of newly hatched chicks, becoming somewhat less marked with later development. The second generation from this cross is of the usual form, three pea, one single.'

"While in a general way the present investigation may be said to confirm the above statement, yet such a statement does not appear to us to give an entirely adequate view of the facts. In the first place, so far at least as the experimental work at this Station is concerned, involving as it has excellent breeding stock on both sides, the *definiteness* of the dominance of a pea over single comb in the first generation of cross-breeds does not impress one. On the contrary, there can be no doubt that if a competent poultryman, thoroughly acquainted with the fancy points of poultry, were to go through a large flock of these cross-breeds, as they run on the range, he would say that the cross of pea by single, at least as represented with Cornish Indian Games and Barred Plymouth Rocks, results in giving every intermediate condition of comb between perfect pea and perfect single. The number of pea combs obtained in these cross-breeds, which were perfect from the fanciers' standpoint, was exceedingly small. Unfortunately it is not possible to measure or to define very precisely the characteristics of these intermediate combs. In taking notes on the birds on the range the only record regarding combs which it was practically feasible to take was that they were either single, intermediate, or pea. The attempt was made in every case to indicate in the

record whether an intermediate comb was nearer to the single or to the pea type.

"The essential results regarding comb inheritance as they appear from the present work, may be set forth as follows:

"1.—The number of perfect, or approximately perfect, pea combs, considered from the show room or fanciers' standpoint, which are obtained in these cross-breeds, differs according to the direction of the cross. In the mating Cornish male on Barred Rock female, a much larger number of relatively good pea combs was obtained than in the reciprocal cross. This was true for both of the Cornish Indian males which were used in these breeding experiments. It was also true regardless of the females. That is to say, some good pea combs, from the show room standpoint, were obtained from practically all of the Barred Rock females.

"2.—The quality from the fanciers' standpoint, of the pea comb obtained in the cross-breeds, depends in some degree on the character of the individual bird used. While, as has already been said, nearly every family of the cross in one direction will yield some individuals with relatively good pea combs, yet it is also a fact that the proportion of relatively good pea combs is very much higher in some families than others. In certain of these matings all of the intermediate combs are very close to the perfect pea type, whereas, in other individual families all of the intermediate combs are much closer to the single comb type. This factor of the individuality of the specimens bred in the determination of the precise condition of bodily characters displayed in the cross-breeds has been very little taken into account in Mendelian work so far done with poultry. That it is really a very important factor no one who has had experience in the practical breeding of fancy poultry has any doubt whatever.

"3.—The range of variation from absolutely perfect single combs, on the one hand, to perfect pea combs, on the other hand, is filled without break or gap by small intermediate gradations in comb condition in these cross-breeds. The occurrence of perfect single combs in the first cross-bred generation from a cross of pea by single came as a surprise. There can be no doubt, however, of the objective fact. Such combs occur much more frequently in the mating of Barred Plymouth Rock male on Cornish Indian Game female than in the reciprocal cross. The thought is, of course, at once suggested that the reason for the occurrence of these single combs was that we were dealing with a heterozygous individual bearing a pea comb in the original supposedly pure stock. As a matter of fact, only one of the cross-bred families from which single comb birds were obtained, shows that it is probably of this character. * * * The explanation of the occurrence of single combs through a heterozygous condition of one parent by no means holds for all matings where such combs were obtained. * * *

"6.—It is evident that the facts set forth lend themselves very readily to interpretation according to the principle of the imperfection of dominance lately so fully developed by Davenport to account for the inheritance of a number of characteristics in poultry. We have not as yet, however, been able to convince ourselves that any real gain is made by such interpretation."

The last section of the discussion deals with inheritance of shape of body. Quoting from it:

"1.—The male cross-breeds, regardless of the direction of the cross, are all alike in possessing the characteristic shape of the Cornish Indian Game. They show no trace of the shape of body or carriage which is characteristic of the Barred Plymouth Rock males.

"2.—The female cross-breeds, on the other hand, are not so distinctly game-like in their characteristics. On the contrary, there appears to be an intermediate condition between what is normally found in the two pure breeds. The cross-bred pullets are distinctly intermediate in shape of body.

"3.—There appears also to be some difference here in the result according to the direction in which the cross is made. The barred cross-bred pullets, as a class, conform somewhat more closely to the shape of a pure Barred Plymouth Rock female than do the black cross-breeds. The black cross-bred pullets are nearer to the Game standard of body shape."

On a comparison of the illustrations given in the bulletin, I cannot agree with the view that the male cross-breeds are characteristic Indian Games in shape with no trace of their Rock parentage. Only one bird of each is shown, but the cross-bred male, though more on the Game than on the Rock type of shape, is plainly an intermediate. He has not the convex back of the Indian Game, but a straight back like the Plymouth Rock—lacking the concave rise at the tail. His breast is between the two parent types, and he is longer in the fluff than the Game, though not so long as the Plymouth Rock. The tail also is intermediate. This is the bird as seen in profile. Quartering, or from front or rear he would probably show rather less Rock type, for the reason that in these positions the points of Game type which depend on shortness and closeness of feather would be more prominent, and contrast more with the Rock type. Length, width, and texture of feathers are very important factors in the apparent shape of a bird. Birds that look quite different in shape with their feathers on, may be so like with feathers and other external identifying characters removed, that no one could say which was which.

Napoleon Moneychaser--Poultry Editor.

CHAPTER XII.—

MISS MORTON was delighted with the position offered her, and very ready to accept Napoleon's cordial invitation to visit them for a week or two before establishing herself in a city boarding-house. She proved so capable that before a week was up she was able to relieve the editor of responsibility in many little matters. The stenographer question was not so easily solved. Maria was in the office almost daily, and somehow managed to get into trouble with every stenographer engaged. For this, blame not Maria, nor yet the stenographers. They were girls just out of school, and not yet broken to their work and to office life; while Maria—with all her latent talent for managing—was inexperienced herself, and couldn't get on with them as she did with Miss Morton. Perhaps her relations with the latter were smoother because she had an ulterior motive, yet Maria was not lacking in feeling for her own kindred, however remote. Though she might exploit the resources of a kinswoman for her own benefit, in it all she would be amiable—for she was decidedly clannish in spirit. But this same clannishness that helped her on with Miss Morton, hindered harmonious relations with others she came in contact with in a business way, and was disposed to regard as hirelings to be paid as little and worked as hard as possible. However well adapted to managing in the role of power behind the throne, Maria was not especially qualified to supervise the work of an office, and keep it going smoothly.

So stenographers came and went, and the weeks slipped away. Napoleon's days were given mostly to business in the office or on the road; his evenings to conferences with the printer at M——, looking toward arrangements for printing the paper in that town. It was a great relief to him when finally all arrangements to this end were made—his contract with the printer, and the printer's arrangements for new presses, type, etc., and he could see his way clear about the printing after the end of the year. With these troubles off his mind, he set out about the first of November to visit a number of poultrymen for the purpose of securing advertising, and if he got a contract that warranted it, giving the advertiser a writeup. His first stop was at B——, where was located a breeder of White Wyandottes by the name of Joe Drum.

This Drum was a shrewd, blunt fellow, not above turning an occasional trick in a trade. He was reputed to have made a small fortune with poultry, and he never denied the reputation; but for all that he was as slow pay as any of those of the cult supposed to be less prosperous. Napoleon and he had clashed on several occasions, and had not been on speaking terms for over a year, during which time Drum's advertising had not appeared in the *Advertiser*. While Jones paid the freight, this omission gave Moneychaser no concern, but now that he had to look wholly to the business of the paper for money to pay bills, Drum's advertising seemed not only desirable, but necessary. He needed it for the direct income it would bring, and needed it also as a lever to get other advertising. So he had written Drum a nice letter, asking if he would be at home at such and such a time, and receiving a reply in the affirmative, had gone to B—— prepared to do anything and everything possible to placate Drum, and come away with a big contract.

He had expected that Drum would meet him at the station, but in this he was disappointed. Of course Drum hadn't said he would, but it seemed to Napoleon, who had grown immensely in self-importance since he became proprietor as well as editor of the *Advertiser*, that inasmuch as he had made the advances he had, the least a plain poultryman—however prosperous and independent—could do, would be to meet him with a carriage. He felt so sure that Drum could not fail in this that he declined the depot carriage, and lounged around waiting until the hackman had driven off. When the hack had disappeared, and there was still no sign of Drum, he paced the platform for a few minutes, then went inside and inquired of the telegraph operator the way and the distance to Drum's farm.

"It's a good two miles and a half," said the operator. "If you wait about three-quarters of an hour the public arriage will be back."

"I can walk it in less time than that," replied Napoleon. "Just give me the directions. Mr. Drum is expecting me, and I'll probably meet him before I go far."

The agent gave him directions, and Napoleon set out, hoping against hope that he would meet Drum. It was a warm afternoon for November, and muggy. There had been heavy rains, and the roads were bad. It was hard walking, and long before he had traversed half the distance, Napoleon was wishing heartily that he had waited for the depot carriage. The only consolation was that he was saving a dollar. Even that was small consolation when he considered that his original schedule had allowed him only three hours at B——, and that now, in order to meet the engagement he had made for the next morning, he would have to travel half the night after leaving Drum's, and lose more of a night's rest than was agreeable.

So it was in no pleasant frame of mind that he arrived at Drum's farm. However, he forced himself to put on an appearance of amiability he was far from feeling, and pulling himself together as he neared the house, marched up to it as briskly as if long walks through the mud were trifles to him.

Drum was at home, and—for a wonder—not busy. "Why, hello, Moneychaser," he exclaimed, as he opened the door. "I'd quite given you up. I've been loafing about here since noon waiting for you. Walk? Why didn't you take a carriage?"

"I'm rather fond of walking," replied Napoleon, as they entered Drum's office, which was also the family sitting room. "'Tis good exercise for a man who works mostly at the desk. Sets the blood circulating."

"What's new? What'd you hear?"

"Business looks good—uncommonly good. Never saw a better outlook. Don't you find it so?"

"Can't say that I do. But then perhaps I don't have the kind the people want. Everything seems to run to buff nowadays. Your own trade is good, I suppose."

"Great. We did the biggest month's business in October we ever did before January. Wonderful how the demand increases."

"I don't see anything very wonderful about it in your case," remarked Drum. "I could work up a great trade in canary birds if I had a paper to boom them with. By the way, I hear you're sole proprietor of the *Advertiser* now."

"Yes," replied Napoleon, swelling out his chest. "I've bought out Mr. Jones' interest, and have full control. No one else owns a dollar in it. This puts me in a position to do a good many things I couldn't do before, and especially to help out my advertisers."

"I don't want to put myself in the position of offering advice where it isn't wanted, and in a matter that's none of my business anyway, but as I see it the best way you can help your advertisers in general is by saying less about the varieties you keep, and especially about your own stock."

"That's the way I've always felt about it myself," replied Napoleon so coolly that Drum almost gasped, but suppressing the gasp, pinched his own leg to see if he was awake.

"Yes," went on Napoleon, "I've always told Jones that it was a mistake to say so much about my own stock, but he would say, 'Not at all. The personal touch is what fetches them.' You can see yourself, Mr. Drum, how unpleasant it has been for me—practically forced to boom my own stock when I felt like I was robbing the other advertisers. But that's all past. I'm in full control of the paper now, and every advertiser can be sure he'll get a square deal. My motto is to help my advertisers sell goods."

"I take it, then," observed Drum, "that you're here looking for business."

"Exactly, and because I want your business, and because—owing to circumstances over which I had no control at the time, (you understand I couldn't take the position I wanted to without reflecting on Jones—and I'm always loyal to my employer), your dealings with the *Advertiser* were not satisfactory, I'm going to offer you special inducements for a yearly contract."

Here Moneychaser paused, expecting that with this leading statement, Drum would respond. But Drum only sat looking him squarely in the eye. After a little pause, getting no help from Drum, Napoleon resumed, "I'm going to offer you a page at the price of half a page, and—in addition—a good writeup now, and another just before the egg season—"

"Mr. Moneychaser," remarked Drum, "I don't know whether you're a fool or whether you think I'm one. I don't know whether I've been all wrong in my judgment of you or not. Your explanation of your attitude in the past has a plausible sound, but—you'll excuse my saying—it's not easy to swallow. I'm given to plain speaking, you know."

"No offense at all, Mr. Drum—not in the least. I see your point of view—perfectly. My position was unfortunate. It will take time to set myself right with the advertisers who—not unnaturally—have supposed I was voluntarily using the paper to promote my own personal interests. That's the reason I've come to you first. I'm offering you half price on a big contract because it will help me with others. You understand I couldn't afford to take much advertising at such a rate. I can't do it for you after one year. But for the advantage it gives me in getting other advertising, I'm willing to do it once. There, I've been perfectly frank with you."

Drum mused, watching Moneychaser out of half closed eyes. He was persuaded to take the advertising, but the bargaining instinct prompted him to seek better terms. "What is your rate on half a page?" he asked.

"Thirty-one fifty, each insertion. That's three hundred and seventy-eight dollars for twelve insertions. If you want to pay cash in advance, or inside of thirty days, I'll take ten per cent off."

"And your rate for a page would be?"

"Fifty-two fifty each insertion."

"Half of fifty-two fifty is twenty-six twenty-five, as I figure it. You said half the page rate, didn't you? Wasn't that your first proposition?"

"No. The half page rate is higher. Still, to accommodate you I'll make it \$26.25 each insertion."

"With ten off for cash within thirty days?"

"No-o-o."

"Oh, well, I'm not particular. I'm carrying about all the advertising I care to, anyway." But, I was willing to strain a point to help you out when you're starting on your own account. I've helped about all the papers get on their feet."

Napoleon figured on an envelope. "I'll tell you what I'll do, Mr. Drum. You pay me three hundred dollars cash within thirty days—"

"What do you take me for? I don't pay for advertising until I get it. Your paper has just changed hands. What did Jones quit for? If it was such a good thing why did he let it go? Your space may be worth what you say to you. How do I know what it is worth to me? Oh, no, Mr. Moneychaser, Drum doesn't pay for goods until they're delivered. The only way I make a contract with the advertiser is at half the page price for a page, billed to me every month, ten per cent off for payment within thirty days of the receipt of the bill—and that's more than most of the papers get—and with the provision that I can cancel the contract at any time I'm not satisfied with the results, but that as long as I'm satisfied you have to hold to your agreement."

Moneychaser studied his figures on the envelope, with a wry face. He would have given much to have been able to express his feelings as in the days when Jones "paid the freight," but those days were gone, and he was in dire need of money. Finally he looked up. "I'll tell you what I'll do, Mr. Drum. You understand that just now I'm pretty hard up for money. Make the contract for a year, with one hundred dollars down on account, and further payments when due on the terms you mention, and I'll agree."

"To help you out, I'll do it—provided I supply the writeups and you sign them."

"Suit yourself about that."

So the bargain was concluded, and Drum's man drove the editor back to the station at B——, just in time to catch his train.

(To be Continued).

A Question of Journalistic Ethics.

THERE is a poultryman down in New Jersey who devised a dry mash feeder, and after using it for several years, and finding it good, thought that inasmuch as it was a simple little thing, it was not patentable. But he wanted other poultrymen to get the benefit of it. So he sent plans of his feeder to an editor who was an ardent advocate of dry mash feeding, and asked him to try it and give his readers the benefit. The New Jersey man heard nothing of his feeder until, to his great surprise, he found the principal advertiser in the journal, to the editor of which he had sent it, was manufacturing and selling, and had applied for a patent on it.

The inventor of the appliance says: "No other mention has appeared in the paper. It is dollars to doughnuts that the sanctimonious gentleman has not handled my information without some profit to himself. I can prove that this feeder has been used on my farm three seasons, and also that I was the originator of it. Whether he is mixed up with ——— & ———'s ad., I don't know, but think it a good guess that he is. * * * I think if this matter had been put in FARM-POULTRY'S hands the method would have reached your readers as I intended it should those of ———."

Such a transaction as that described above is in the nature of a breach of trust. An editor has no right to use, or to allow others to use, information given him for publication for the benefit of himself or of anyone else. If he does not publish it, he is in honor bound to make no other use of it. That is the moral side to the question. Legally, the editor and advertiser may be on safe ground, though possibly, if the poultryman were to take the case to the courts, and could prove that he had sent a description of the article to the editor, and the editor had received it, he could do something about it, as far as the editor is concerned, and in case of an advertiser having an interest in a paper, if that appeared, the charge of breach of trust might hold against him also. The great safety of those who do things of this kind lies in the fact that the offended party rarely thinks it worth while to press his case. An invention of this kind will not often profit the inventor greatly because he is not in a position to manufacture and sell it to advantage. Even if this New Jersey poultryman had secured a patent, and undertaken to put the article on the market, he would be as likely to lose money on it as to make it profitable. To the dealer who has facilities for marketing it with other goods, it may be worth a great deal more than the inventor could possibly get out of it. There is probably little material damage to the inventor in this case. His estimate of the value of the article was such that he was willing to give it to the public. His plan for doing this miscarried because those he trusted with it abused his confidence.

Principles and Politics.

UNDER the heading "Coming Our Way," the *American Poultryman* says, "Editor John H. Robinson of FARM-POULTRY, Boston, Mass., who made the statement in his March issue that he 'does not consider that consistency requires inflexible opposition to a poultry journalist's candidacy at all stages,' now fully agrees with the views of the editor of the *American Poultryman*, which we have been declaring for sometime was the only right, just, and proper view to be taken by poultry editors." Mr. Rankin then quotes at length the "Suggestions for 1912" which appeared in June FARM-POULTRY, and adds some further comment giving his views.

From which it would appear that Mr. Rankin does not understand either his own views, or our position. The writer's views on the advisability of having editors actively engaged in editorial work in office in the A. P. A. are views he brought into poultry matters from outside and advocated in this paper long before Rankin was heard of in poultry circles. If Mr. Rankin wants to get them straight in his head, he should note that our present attitude toward Mr. Hicks' in office is, that having elected this editor to one term in the office of president, the association should continue him in office for several years. We do not know whether Mr. Rankin can understand why we take this position, but the average person

does not have to have it explained to him that it may be worse for the association to change presidents annually, than to have a journalist in the office of president. As a matter of fact, so far as a single case is concerned, it could make very little difference to the association whether a particular office was held by a journalist or not. It is when many journalists are seeking office, and helping each other into office, that their attitude becomes pernicious. But electing a president of an association like the A. P. A. for a single one year term is poor policy, because the conditions are such that a president cannot undertake and complete anything in a year, and the result is that the association benefits little by what ability to advance its interests a man elected president may possess.

The article which Mr. Rankin quotes was written on the assumption that Mr. Hicks was not and would not be a candidate for re-election. Its suggestions were made on that basis. While for the reasons that impelled us not to advocate the election of Mr. Hicks in the first place we would prefer to see one of the men we mentioned in the office, we believe it is of greater importance that the association should consistently follow the policy of keeping a president in office for at least three years, than that it should throw down a president because he was a journalist. We have always tried to advocate the principles in which we believed without bigotry. We believe that a president should have as long a term at least as the members of the executive board. We would vote at any time to make the president's term three years. As it happens to be for one year, unless an officer was, in our judgment, unfit for the position, we would urge his re-election, even though we had not supported him in the first place. If Mr. Hicks will take a nomination for a second and third term, he can have the writer's vote and such support as he can give. Whenever his successor is to be elected, we shall do what we can toward the election of men of the class we prefer to see in the offices—the breeders.

The Futility of "Standard" Illustrations.

IN ALL this hubbub over the "Standard" illustrations, occasionally some "still, small voice" is heard giving expression to the opinion that the illustrations are not really necessary—that a "Standard" would still be a standard without them. If the "Standard" is to be reduced to essentials, to what would remain after all that is meaningless or useless has been taken away, much of the text as well as the illustrations would go. For the "Standard," of itself, is not adequate for its supposed purpose, and the purpose it does serve, it could serve equally well if reduced to about one-tenth of its present contents. To meet the supposed requirements of a standard, the work should be treated in an altogether different way. But leaving that aside for the present, consider the illustrations.

The ground for the movement to declare the present "Standard" obsolete is the allegation that the illustrations, supposed to be presented as models for breeders, exhibitors, and judges, are so inconsistent, and, in some instances so bad, that the book is practically worthless. In response to requests for their views, some breeders, echoing the views of their questioner, declare that the book is of no use to them because they cannot take its illustrations as patterns in breeding and in selecting birds for exhibition. Doubtless these people are sincere; equally doubtless they are mistaken. For thirty years the "Standard" was not illustrated, yet breeds and varieties were developed with as much uniformity of type as in the few years since illustrations have been placed in the "Standard." Breeders got their ideas then—as they get them now—from many sources; from illustrations in books and papers, and in breeders' catalogues, and from seeing birds on exhibition and elsewhere. In this way they will continue to get their ideas. If "Standard" illustrations are good they help. If bad, we do not see where they can do much harm, for no one is dependent on them, and there is small chance of anyone interested enough in poultry breeding to buy a "Standard" not learning of it when "Standard" illustrations are unsatisfactory.

Ideal illustrations, all in profile, one male and one

female of each variety illustrated, are utterly inadequate to give good ideas of breed or variety type and character. It has been suggested that the "Standard" should show cock, cockerel, hen, and pullet in each variety illustrated—showing the differences in form at different ages and stages of development. The adoption of this suggestion would be a move in the right direction. But if the "Standard" issued by the American Poultry Association is to be actually the breeder's guide it must be quite different as to text, and must also show birds in different positions. One must have this variety to form his ideas. If the "Standard" does not give it, he gets it elsewhere;—not wittingly in every case, but his idea of type will ultimately be a composite result of the impressions of all the pictures of important birds of a variety that he sees. These will not all impress him equally, but all will give their impressions.

The Educational Movement.

THIRTEEN years ago last January the first regularly organized class in poultry keeping came together at the Rhode Island Agricultural College. Dr. A. A. Brigham, then at the head of the department of Agriculture, undertook the work, not without misgivings, but with the determination to find out whether there really was a demand for instruction in poultry culture. The class numbered about twenty. From this beginning poultry work at the colleges has grown until now there are departments of poultry husbandry at some twelve or fifteen institutions in the States, and several in Canada, while there must be ten or twelve more states that have, or will soon have made appropriations for poultry work. At this rate, before many years every institution for higher agricultural education in the United States and Canada will have a well equipped poultry department. Taking colleges and high schools and technical schools of various kinds together, there will soon be several hundred places where a good grade of instruction in poultry keeping is given.

Now a school cannot turn out a finished expert poultryman. Nor can any amount of sound instruction and good advice at school and college eliminate from every student's mind all the fallacies about poultry keeping that may have found lodgment there. Further, the college instructors have not only had to teach poultry keeping, but to learn how to teach it. When you consider that the public schools and colleges of liberal arts teaching matters that have been subjects of instruction for centuries, fall far short of what may reasonably be expected in their product, you must admit that the results of poultry instruction are to be judged leniently. We doubt whether any other subject could make a better showing in the same length of time.

Squeezing the Figures Down.

THE census figures for numbers of poultry on farms have been coming in state by state, and we have been waiting until they were all in, and, with them, the returns on eggs, before publishing them. Judging from some of the figures, some of the states that have been making extravagant claims are going to have a great deal of the wind taken out of them.

There is Missouri, for instance. The State Poultry Board claimed, over a year ago, \$100,000,000 for the poultry of the state. I tried to find out from the secretary of the board how this estimate was made, and just what it was worth. He was positive, but not communicative. A little later the claim was reduced to fifty million. The census returns give a little less than \$12,000,000 for poultry. Eggs should be about the same. This will not include city and town poultry. What that would amount to no one knows. Certainly not \$25,000,000.

There is no need of putting out extravagant figures. The truth is good enough. In Missouri the increase on poultry enumerated was over 100% since 1900.

Still Waiting for that Demonstration.

MANY months have gone by since we published the statement that a scale of points in a standard like our poultry standards was absolutely meaningless, and asked some of those who base their discussions of methods of judging on the scale of points, to demonstrate that the scale served the purpose they said it did. We have several times repeated the request. No demonstration is yet forthcoming, but writers on the subject still repeat their forms of words implying that the values given the various sections in the scale of points are the first things to consider in judging poultry. There is too much of this poll-parrot instruction in poultry culture.

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Denver, 1911. Now Past==Never Forgotten.

MANY conventions of the A. P. A. have, undoubtedly, considered more grave questions, several have as surely enacted legislation of much greater moment, and at times gone by, critical problems which meant the life or death of the association have been solved and fortunately always successfully, but I doubt if one was ever before held that allotted so generously a full measure of genuine gratifications and enjoyment. Surely, a great majority of the delegates, both official and lay, left fully satisfied that they had been amply repaid for time, trouble, and expense. Every condition seemed favorable for good deeds and an enjoyable time.

In the first place the Colorado people carried through their program of entertainment without a hitch from beginning to end. At no convention which the writer has attended have the arrangements been so perfect, nor as well carried out as at this convention of 1911.

The thermometer registered at "comfort" for the travelers, and this has a great deal to do with the temperature of the individual delegates and, consequently of the convention. This delightful weather was continued throughout convention week and later, affording the sight-seers most favorable opportunities for enjoying the wonderful landscapes above and below the eye. Previous rains, while accountable for the clear, cool atmosphere, were also accountable for washouts on the tracks of the Rock Island Railroad which made detours necessary. President Bryant, Secretary Crawford of the New York Show, and several members of the executive board were twelve hours late after taking a circuitous route, and other trains an hour late, but none were late enough to delay in any way the proceedings of either the executive board or the convention.

Probably the greatest interest of the convention centered upon the action of the association on the last Standard, and on the proposed amendments. Much to their surprise the delegates found themselves thoroughly agreed upon the disposition of the Standard problem. Some few of the proposed amendments were adopted. The most important being to make the Standard revision committee consist of seven instead of three members. An amendment calculated to settle tie votes was also adopted. The convention spent much time in the consideration of express rates and abuses; the adoption of a resolution providing for a standard to judge dressed poultry and eggs, and finally worked up considerable excitement over a resolution to open the meetings of the executive board to the public. During the last session several resolutions for the good of the order were passed, including one appropriating money for educational purposes. This was an innovation and was opposed very sternly by some, but by adding a clause which made it optional with the President whether to spend this sum or not it was worked through.

The Thirty-Sixth Annual Convention was called to order by President Chas. M. Bryant in the big Denver Auditorium, famous as the building in which William Jennings Bryan was nominated as the standard-bearer of the Democratic party in 1908. The west end of this building had been fitted up for the use of the convention. This spacious room with its heavy, rich draperies and stage fittings, resembled a well appointed theatre, which in reality it is, the size of which indicated that the Denver people expected at least 1000 delegates, and it is my wish that we

had not disappointed them. As it was, nearly 200 delegates were present.

The roll call was in progress when the Governor of Colorado and party, including acting Mayor Robertson, came on the stage and were welcomed by President Bryant, who, after making a short opening address in which he thanked the Colorado Branch for their hospitality, and for keeping every promise made the Association, introduced President A. A. Peters of the Colorado Branch, who introduced the Hon. John F. Shafroth, Governor of Colorado, referring to him as a strong Democrat and in the opinion of William Jennings Bryan, a man of Presidential timber. Governor John F. Shafroth is a very easy and interesting talker, and he gave many interesting facts about Colorado and demonstrated his familiarity with the mining, agricultural, and live stock conditions of the state, including the poultry problem into Colorado. He quoted many statistics to show that Colorado is a fine location for poultrymen. He said poultry products should bring Chicago quotations plus the freight, which would give the local poultrymen the advantage of the freight cost in his struggle for a living or wealth. He referred to the fact that \$4,000,000 worth of poultry products were annually brought into Colorado. Colorado, according to Governor Shafroth, was not a state of mining interests alone, though the mining interests were large. The total mineral output of the state last year amounted to \$46,000,000, while the agricultural output amounted to \$150,000,000. Governor Shafroth hoped we would enjoy the city of Denver and its vicinity. At the close Governor Shafroth was presented with the badge of the Association by Mr. L. C. Bye of California.

Acting Mayor Robertson then welcomed the convention to Denver, told how well he liked fresh eggs, and upon being presented with a badge of the Association by Mr. Peters, announced that he felt now that he was a full fledged poultryman.

Mr. Peters then read his address of welcome in behalf of the Colorado poultrymen. He claimed that more than the promised 300 members had been secured in the west, the actual number being 473. He then introduced Mr. Grant M. Curtis of New York, who stated matters pertaining to the association, and regretted that it had no permanent headquarters.

At this point President Bryant resumed the chair and finished taking the roll with results as noted above. He appointed Messrs. Richards, Kimmey, and Collier as the Credential Committee. Mr. Kimmey then presented the report of the Election Commissioner as printed in the poultry press at the time, and a board of review of five were elected, of which Mr. Ludden was chairman. It reported sometime afterward that the report of the Election Commissioner was correct, and commended him for the accuracy of detail, etc.

Monday Afternoon.

The report of the executive committee which embodied their actions previous to the opening of the convention was read. That portion which related to the proposed show rules was referred back to the committee for correction. The remainder of the report was adopted. It embodied the following features: The applications of over one thousand for new membership were acted upon favorably. The treasurer's report showed total receipts of \$28,441.92, and a balance in the treasury of \$10,521.05. It was also noted from this

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report that about 20,000 Standards had been sold.

The decisions on applications for judges' licenses were found to be disappointing to many. A majority of the applicants were refused licenses for various reasons. Several failed by one of having the required number of indorsements. Several so-called indorsements were not considered indorsements by the executive committee; some of the applicants admitted never having judged at a single poultry show. It did seem remarkable that such could find five licensed judges that of their own knowledge could indorse and vouch for their work, but one such, properly indorsed by five licensed judges, was nevertheless found among the applicants. The list for general judges was as follows:—

Messrs. Whitney, Wells, Smith, Rapp, Otto, McClaskey, Kerr, Johnston, Currier, Case, Culley, Haskell, and Wales. The special judges were Platt and Stream.

Charters as Branch Associations were granted to the states of Tennessee, Alabama, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Washington, Michigan, Iowa, Utah, Missouri.

The charters of the South-West and Mid-West branches were revoked, and the branches declared dissolved.

Considerable interest was taken in the division of the funds by the various states comprising the Mid-West branch, and a committee of five consisting of Messrs. Bryant, Graham, McGrew, Nichols and Smith was appointed to divide the funds between all the different state branches. After deducting expenses, the funds were divided pro rata to membership acquired during its term of membership. The reports of the state branches were then read by Secretary Campbell.

Nearly all the branches seem to be working in common for state education in poultry matters. Several states have been successful in obtaining a grant of money from their respective Legislatures. South Dakota has an appropriation and grounds and is now looking for a poultryman. New Jersey has established a poultry course in charge of Mr. Lewis. Kansas got an appropriation of \$6000.00. Missouri had \$31,200.00 appropriated for poultry instruction, and has an experiment station, sixty acres of land, well equipped buildings—all for this purpose. Massachusetts has \$5000.00 for the cause.

Tuesday Morning.

The report of the committee on publishing the 1910 "Standard" provoked much discussion, or would have if President Bryant had allowed the same. It was ruled that the motion to accept the report was not debatable. A point of order was raised that the contrary was the parliamentary fact. This was ruled out and an appeal taken. President Bryant stated that this report was in a peculiar position before the convention, inasmuch as the committee had in some manner completed the work it had been instructed to do. The appeal was sustained by a vote of 34 to 29. The real discussion came upon a motion of Mr. Hicks to appoint the same committee with the same powers it originally had, to get out a second edition of 25,000 after correcting the mistakes in the last edition. On this motion Mr. Hicks spoke very fervently, stating that he wanted to go into office with the slate clean. Mr. Curtis was granted the indulgence of the Chair and made a long statement of his relations with several past revision committees. He referred to Mr. Hicks' request that Mr. Sewell be turned over to the association by saying "that he had suggested that Mr. Sewell make all the cuts for the 1905 'Standard' and had insisted upon it up to a point where the cry of graft compelled him to recede." He supported the motion as did Mr. Kimney, who, in a long statement, defended his relations with "Standard" making. Messrs. Cleveland, Quisenberry, and Smith spoke briefly in support of the motion, which was carried.

The contest for separate breed standards showed that the Orpingtons won over all rivals. Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Leghorns being, of course, barred because of having won previous contests. The association has now four breed standards to publish; first, Plymouth Rocks; second, Wyandottes; third, Leghorns; fourth, Orpingtons. Is it to be hoped

that the first, at least, will be published within a year. The benefits of such action, both to breeders of all varieties of Plymouth Rocks and to the association financially, would seem to be most apparent.

Tuesday Afternoon.

This session was devoted entirely to consideration of the proposed amendments. Former conventions have, indeed, been very loath to pass any legislation that altered our constitution, but this convention was a little more inclined to adopt new measures, possibly because of the western atmosphere; but anyway, several amendments were voted upon favorably.

One of the most important changes was the clause which creates a Standard Revision Committee of seven members, in place of the old committee of three. This change would indicate that the association expects this committee to work between times, as it were. This is as it ought to be.

A provision allowing the president to submit questions demanding immediate attention to the executive board, was carried, with the provision that any measure, to be enacted, must be carried by a two-thirds vote. It is also provided that when a tie vote exists for a place of meeting, the final selection shall be made by a majority vote of the executive committee.

The several amendments offered by Mr. Veditz of Colorado, providing for biennial meetings and elections were all lost.

An amendment providing for a committee on programs, consisting of the president, the president-elect, and the secretary, was passed.

The proposed official organ proposition was handled without gloves and settled very shortly in the negative. At the

Wednesday Morning

session the new board of officers was inaugurated, President Bryant presenting President-elect Hicks in a short but neat speech. Mr. Hicks responded, and then introduced the first vice-president, Mr. Hopper of Texas, the second vice-president, Mr. L. B. Audigier of Tennessee, Secretary Campbell, and the three new members of the executive board, Mr. E. M. Bryant, Massachusetts, Mr. H. H. Collier, Washington, and Mr. Earl Hemmaway, Michigan.

Under new business, several resolutions were offered. Mr. Palmer offered one suggesting a boosters committee. One appropriating a sum not to exceed \$500.00, to be spent at the discretion of the president for lanterns, slides, etc., to aid poultry lectures in rural communities were also passed.

Express rates and parcel-post were much discussed, and the convention heard with relief that arrangements had been made for a hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Wednesday Afternoon.

The finance committee for the ensuing year consists of Messrs. Hicks, Bryant, and Fishel.

The standing Revision Committee of Messrs. W. S. Russell, A. C. Smith, W. C. Pierce, E. C. Branch, F. J. Marshall, J. H. Drevenstedt, and Richard Oke.

The following resolution was introduced by A. C. Smith relating to breed standards, and was adopted.

Whereas:—This Association did at its Annual Meeting at Niagara Falls, N. Y., in 1908, vote to publish and distribute for sale breed standards. And **Whereas:**—the conditions of such vote require that Plymouth Rocks be the first breed-standard published. Be it

Resolved:—that a committee of five be appointed by the president to prepare and publish such a breed-standard of all varieties; namely, Barred, White, Buff, Columbian, Silver, Penciled, and Partridge Plymouth Rocks. That this breed-standard contain the (second edition 1910) Standard description of each of the above named varieties, and an outline drawing of male and female to be a reproduction of the best type of Plymouth Rock in the (second edition 1910) Standard, and reproductions of the best feathers obtainable from each of the aforesaid varieties printed in colors, and other features that seem advisable to the committee.

That this committee, with the concur-

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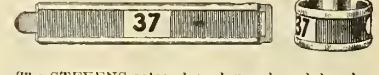
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rence of the finance committee, be empowered to engage an artist to do this work at a price subject to the approval of the finance committee.

Mr. D. A. Nichols was again elected treasurer. Mr. F. L. Kimmey declined the election tendered him as election commissioner. Mr. George L. Barnes of Michigan, Mr. Henry Steinmesch of Missouri, Mr. O. L. McCord of Illinois, and Prof. C. K. Graham were nominated. Prof. Graham declined. The ballot resulted in McCord forty-one, Steinmesch twenty-seven, Barnes thirteen, blanks two, scattering two. On motion of Mr. Curtis, seconded by Mr. Steinmesch, Mr. McCord was declared unanimously elected.

Mr. Murkin invited the Association to meet at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1912. Mr. Loring Brown put forth the claims of Atlanta, Georgia. Invitations were also received from Detroit and Toledo. Mr. Byee of California put in the claims of that state for a meeting in 1915, in connection with the Panama Exposition.

The business of the session having been accomplished on schedule time, the convention adjourned.

The Banquet.

The members of the Association and friends were tended a much appreciated banquet at the Albany Hotel on Wednesday evening, by the members of the Colorado Branch. Mr. A. A. Peters was master of ceremonies. The repast won the praises of all who partook.

THE MENU.

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THE COLORADO BRANCH Mr. Arthur A. Peters
THE LADIES Mr. T. E. Quisenberry
THE PRESS Mr. Grant M. Curtis
FOR A GREATER A. P. A. Mr. S. T. Campbell
A BILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY Mr. Fred L. Kimmey

It was to be regretted that President Bryant could not be present, but that worthy was thoroughly exhausted through his continuous efforts as presiding officer, both of the convention and of the executive board. Five days of presiding at three, and occasionally five sessions a day, is some presiding, and on the whole is probably irksome work.

It caused a feeling of relief to find that evening sessions were not on the program. There is such a thing as overworking, and it is a safe assertion that nothing is gained by working too long at one thing. As a rule, as much business can be done in two sessions as in three. It was good judgment on the part of Colorado people to substitute social features instead of business sessions at our evening gatherings.

The reception at Brown's Palace Hotel on Monday night, the trolley sight-seeing trip and visit to White City on Tuesday night, besides the very enjoyable banquet on Wednesday evening, were pleasant affairs in the best and largest sense of the word.

The trip to Avon and return, touching at Corona, ten thousand feet above the sea-level in the midst of a snow storm, and in August, was one past description by a poultry-topic writer. Then the trip to Colorado Springs, the reception and

banquet, the side trips, to Crystal Park, nine thousand feet above the sea-level in automobiles, the high drive along the top of Cheyenne Mountains, visiting the seven falls, a trip through Mushroom Park and the Garden of the Gods, to the Cliff Dwellers, were all trips which very few had ever taken, and which could not be taken anywhere else in the world. As a sight-seeing locality, and as a hospitable, enjoyable community, Denver was an ideal selection for our 1911 convention.

A. C. SMITH.

August 22, 1911.

The Attendance at Denver.

Through the kindness of Secretary Campbell we have been furnished a list of the members of the American Poultry Association registered as in attendance at the Thirty-Sixth Annual Convention of the American Poultry Association at Denver, August 7-11. The total registration was 187, which is 58 more than were registered at St. Louis last year. Colorado leads with 53. Kansas comes next with 20. Indiana is third with 18, Illinois next 17, Nebraska follows with 10. Then comes Iowa with 9, New York 6, Pennsylvania 5; California, Georgia, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Texas 4 each; Arkansas, New Jersey, and Oklahoma 3 each; Connecticut, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Tennessee and Washington 2 each; District of Columbia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, South Dakota and Virginia 1 each; Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Idaho and Oregon, none; and none from all Canada.

A comparison with the attendance of last year shows that the gain was due mostly to the large attendance of Colorado and Kansas and Nebraska members; to the usual good representation of Indiana and Illinois; to the few from the Pacific coast, and to a slight increase in attendance from a number of states which usually send a small delegation to a distant meeting. The Colorado committee certainly deserve credit for bringing out a heavy registration of Colorado members. Missouri sent but 30 to the St. Louis convention, and Illinois, just as accessible, only 19. Two years ago the delegation of New Yorkers at Niagara numbered only 32.

The most noteworthy thing, however, about all recent meetings, is that whatever the total registration, the number of individuals taking part regularly in the proceedings of the association, continues about the same, or if it increases, the increase is much less than would naturally be expected from the increase in membership, and in attendance registered. This condition is likely to continue, regardless of where the meeting is held, and of the total registration of members in attendance. At present it means that the association is almost on a delegate basis.

National Poultry Magazine.

With the June issue *Poultry Monthly* changed its name to the *National Poultry Magazine*. At the same time *Poultry Digest* of New York and the *New England Poultry Journal*, Hartford, Ct. were merged in the new magazine, placing three representative poultry papers in the field under one name. The *National* will be published at Syracuse, the same as *Poultry Monthly* has been for the past few years.

NATIONAL POULTRY PUBLISHING CO.

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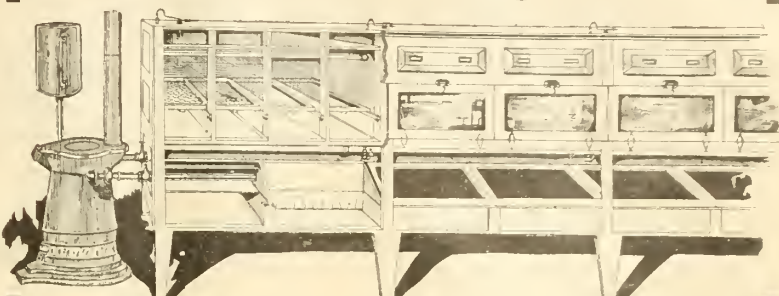
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NICKERSON'S WHITE WYANDOTTES

Are you anxious to win? Exhibition birds for Fall and Winter Shows for sale, bred from my 2nd Cock and 5th Pen winners, at Boston, 1911. Prices reasonable. If you want breeders that will produce winners can furnish them in pens, trios or pairs properly mated. If you wish to introduce new blood, it would be to your interest to let me quote you prices on male or female. Utility cockerels \$3.00 each. Write your wants to F. H. NICKERSON, No. 7 Water Street, Natick, Mass.

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win at Boston Show, 1st and 2nd Pens; 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th Cockerels. Special for Best Colored Male, and many other prizes. I have prize winners and many grand youngsters for sale. Brilliant colored Cockerels closely related to my Boston winners. My birds are the famous M. H. Coffin strain, which means the best in the world. Eggs, \$5 and \$10 per sitting. Write me your wants.

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Acknowledged Everywhere the World's Greatest Laying Strain; Unequaled in Standard Qualities. Remember that we are the originators, and for more than 30 years specialty breeders of the justly celebrated "WYCKOFF" Strain of S. C. White Leghorns, the Most Profitable Strain of Poultry in America today. Place your orders at headquarters, and make no mistake. 2000 choice yearling hens, fine strong early cockerels, and a few yearling cocks; must be sold at once to make room, and prices will be made especially attractive to early buyers.

Send for catalogue, and state wants as near as possible. Address,
C. H. WYCKOFF & SON, Aurora, Cayuga Co., N. Y.

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The modern, up-to-date business way of poultry raising. Large, permanent plants give every advantage over small incubators and brooders. Giant Incubators 2100 egg capacity. Little Giants 1200 eggs. Either may be enlarged indefinitely. Incubators grow as your business grows—25000 egg capacity and over. Operate at 1/2 cent a day per 1000 eggs.

Write for free catalogue M.

NEWTOWN PRODUCING CO., Newtown, Pa.





The Palace Show.

The second show to be held by the Empire Poultry Association in New York City is announced for December 5-9, 1911, at the New Grand Central Palace. With the prestige given them by last year's successful show, and with a better opportunity to display exhibits, the Empire Association will no doubt make this a classy show. See announcement on outside back cover.

Why?

Why the Buff Langshan? If we are to have a Buff Langshan, why not also have Partridge Langshans, Silver Penciled Langshans, Laced Langshans, Duckwing Langshans, Red Langshans, and so on to the end of the chapter? A writer in a contemporary tells the public that "Buff Langshans have come to the front, etc.," adding, of course, that he has some wonderful stock of the variety.

R. C. Orpington Club.

At the annual election of the National Rose Comb Orpington Club the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: S. D. Lance, president; H. C. Faulkner, vice president; A. R. Brown, secretary and treasurer. The club is now at work on a fine catalogue which will be a credit to the organization, and give this variety the publicity it deserves. Any person interested in this breed may obtain a copy free by addressing the secretary, A. R. Brown, Melrose Highlands, Mass.

"Lehman's Poultry Doctor."

The above title is given to a practical little treatise on poultry diseases, by Dr. H. H. Lehman, Ashland, Ohio, who is also the publisher. Dr. Lehman is a veterinary surgeon who has had considerable experience in treating the diseases of poultry. His presentation of the subject, however, is in language all can understand. The text of the book shows no special ground for criticism. We question, however, the appropriateness of including in a work of this character illustrations of poultry which have nothing to do with the text. Price 75 cents.

Notice to Buff Cochins Breeders.

Owing to the fact that there was not a quorum present at the last meeting of the American Buff Cochins Club at the International show of Buffalo, no business was transacted. However, a few changes in the officers have taken place, which we desire to make known to those interested. They are as follows: President J. J. Hare of Whitby, Ont., has resigned in favor of C. W. Case of Rochester, Mich. Dr. Hare to hold office of Hon. Past President. Secretary-Treasurer C. W. Case, of Rochester, Mich., has resigned in favor of C. W. Best, of Charlotte, N. C.

The above changes are all that have taken place since the meeting at New York 1909-1910. All other officers remain as before.

C. W. BEST, Sec'y-Treas.
Charlotte, N. C.

The Great International Show.

The management of the great International Show to be held in Buffalo January 22-28, 1912, plans for a big laying contest during the show, which will test the producing qualities of those hens which always lay so well at home. The male birds will not be forgotten; there will be a contest for them. It has been discovered that the male bird that crows the most frequently has the best vitality, a thing to be desired in all breeding stock. So a crowing contest has been arranged, and like the laying contest, will be open to all who wish to enter in that class. Some liberal specials have already been secured because of the novelty of the affair.

Then there will be prizes for long crows, and loud crows, and all other kinds of

crows. The contest will be on for a short time each day of the show, and will be used as an advertising feature to stir up that large class of individuals who always crave some activity in a contest, and on whom the quiet and stately pose of the fancy feathered birds makes no impression. Many more such things will be done to help our utility brethren, who are deserving of more attention in the show room than they have had in the past. A continuous program of demonstrations and lectures will be held throughout the whole week.

STANLEY A. MERRILEY, Secretary.
36 Coal and Iron Exch'ge, Buffalo, N. Y.

The American Barred Plymouth Rock Club.

Barred Rock breeders will undoubtedly be interested in a report of our work for the past season. Club ribbons have been given to two hundred show associations during the past seasons. These ribbons are of the finest silk and of handsome design stamped in gold. One each is given for best shaped male, best shaped female, best colored male, and best colored female. It is our earnest desire to place these ribbons at every show in the United States and Canada. We bespeak the aid of every Barred Rock breeder in doing so.

The Year Book of 84 pages contains a complete list of members, and many articles of great value to breeders which cannot be seen elsewhere. This book is really an art book, an album as it were, of winners of the largest and best shows in America, including Madison Square Garden, N. Y. These illustrations will be of great value to breeders—showing them better than they can be shown in any other way except to visit these exhibitions—what they should try to breed. The Year Book is printed on the best coated paper, sent free to all members not in arrears, and to all new members. Ones for the past year have come in better than ever before, yet much is to be desired. We must have several hundred dollars to place cups in every state, which we should do. Be one to make up a club of ten or twenty in your state—then vote for the show you want to have the cup offered at. A cup in every state with ten members—a \$25.00 cup in every state with twenty members. This is certainly generous enough—we cannot afford more. The club ribbons and the cups are big ads for the winners. Don't delay—send in your membership fee of a dollar or your dues and compete for these specials. Give the Rock industry a little lift. Don't be a sleeper. All attention.

Yours fraternally,
A. C. SMITH, Sec'y-Treas.

An Insulting Addition.

An irate citizen started for the office of his local newspaper for the purpose of clubbing the editor. One of his friends asked him what the editor had done to him, and he said:

"I sent him a letter signed 'Honestas' and he printed it, but added another s."—*Minneapolis Journal.*



White Wyandotte. 2nd Cock, Boston, 1911.
F. H. NICKERSON, Natick, Mass.

Classified Advertisements.

ANCONAS.

SHEPPARD'S Famous Anconas. The World's best. Single or R. C. First at World's greatest shows. Greatest egg record—256 average. Catalog. Cecil Sheppard, Box N, Berea, Ohio. 9-6

BOOKS AND PAPERS.

FREE—"INVESTING FOR PROFIT" magazine. Send me your name and I will mail you this magazine absolutely free. Before you invest a dollar anywhere, get this magazine—it is worth \$10 a copy to any man who intends to invest \$5 or more per month. Tells you how \$1,000 can grow to \$22,000. How to judge different classes of investments, the real power of your money. This magazine six months free if you write today. H. L. Barber, Publisher, R 433, 20 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Ill.

"A T O Z OF BANTAMS AND PIGEONS." By F. W. DeLancey. Over 100 pages, describing and illustrating all the leading varieties, their care, mating, and keeping. This grand book will be ready for mailing June 1st. Price 50 cents. The Poultry Item, the largest eastern poultry journal, 68 to 164 pages monthly, having an up to date pigeon and bantam department. Regular price \$5.00 the year. Our grand special offer—the Poultry Item, one year, and this book, \$5.50. "Twelve Months Work in the Poultry Yard," now ready, and The Poultry Item, one year, \$5.00. Address Poultry Item, Sellersville, Pa.

BREEDING STOCK.

240 EGG strain. 200 cocks, hens, c'k's. W. Legs., W. Rocks, W. Wyand., W. Minorcas. R. 1. Reds, \$2 up. J. E. Rooker, Washington, N. J. 9-1

CHICKS.

CHICKENS. Thousands in Sept. or Oct. Barred C and White Rock and R. I. Red (great vitality) \$12.00 per 100; Eggs \$6.00 per 100. Safe arrival guaranteed. Mangel Beets, the very best and cheapest fall and winter green feed. Order your winter supply now. They are easily kept fresh and juicy all winter. 100 lbs. \$1.00; 500 lbs. \$4.50; 1000 lbs. \$8.00; one ton \$15.00. Special price by the car load in bulk. Brooks Farrar, So. Easton, Mass. 9-2

DUCKS.

HEADQUARTERS for Pekin and Indian Runners. Hundreds to select from at \$1 and up. Can furnish ducks, drakes, trios, or any size flock. Write wants. Davis Duck Plant, Freeport, Me. 9-1

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FREE Illustrated Book tells about over 360,000 protected positions in U. S. Service. More than 40,000 vacancies every year. There is a big chance here for you, sure and generous pay, lifetime employment. Easy to get. Just ask for booklet, A, 92, No obligation. Earl Hopkins, Washington, D. C.

LOCAL Representative wanted. Splendid income assured right man to act as our representative after learning our business thoroughly by mail. Former experience unnecessary. All we require is honesty, ability, ambition and willingness to learn a lucrative business. No soliciting or traveling. This is an exceptional opportunity for a man in your section to get into a big paying business without capital and become independent for life. Write at once for full particulars. Address E. R. Marden, Pres. The National Co-Operative Real Estate Company, 1434, Marden Building, Washington, D. C.

HOUDANS.

HOUDANS. Few choice cockerels; bargain. J. R. Taylor, 14 Jackson St., Laconia, N. H. 9-1

JAVAS.

BLACK Javas. Yearling cocks, hens and young stock for sale. G. M. Mathews, Brocton, N. Y.

LANGSHANS.

BARGAINS in breeding stock now; both Blacks and Whites; eggs, \$3. Ives, Guilford, Ct. 8-2

LEGHORNS.

KULP'S Rose and Single Comb Brown Leghorns 242 and 246 egg strains; big egg, big birds; Rose Comb White the same; are the foundation of all best strains. Cat. W. W. Kulp, Box 40, Pottstown, Pa.

S. C. BUFF LEGHORNS of quality. Early cockerels, choice breeding hens. Can furnish the best winners for any show. Utility stock very cheap this month. L. E. Merihew, Marathon, N. Y. 8-2

MARCH and April hatched, Wyckoff strain, cockerels and pullets. Must enlarge my buildings and will sell at half-price if sold before I build. Also Crystal W. Orps. A. C. Helfrick, Belleville, Pa. 9-1

YEARLING hens for sale—500 S. C. White Leghorns, choice stock of the best laying strains. H. Palmer, Middleport, N. Y. 9-1

WYCKOFF'S strain S. C. W. Leghorns, May hatched cockerels, \$2; cocks, \$5. To be disposed of at once. John McKone, Lakeville, Ct. 9-1

S. C. BUFF Leghorns. Cockerels \$1. Great laying strain. Frank Gates, McDonough, N. Y. 9-1

A FEW Single Comb White Leghorn Cockerels. For utility these birds possess the proper requisites in every particular. Gold-Mills Poultry Farms, Lower Preakness, N. J. R. F. D. No. 1. 9-1

MINORCAS.

2000 NORTHUP'S Minorcas, world's best quality; catalogue free. Geo. W. Hey, successor to Geo. H. Northup, R. 2, Raceville, N. Y.

BLACK MINORCA eggs \$3 per sit.; cockerels R. Story, 187 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

ORPINGTONS.

S. C. BUFF, Black, White Orpingtons. My last season's breeders for sale. Some choice ones to go cheap to make room for the youngsters. Emil R. Doehr, Wallingford, Conn.

S. C. BUFFS. Fancy and utility. Bargains. Circular. J. A. Moulton, Lexington, Mass. 9-2

S. C. BUFFS. A few choice breeders cheap. Fayette Miller, Brattleboro, Vermont. 9-1

PIGEONS.

PIGEONS! PIGEONS! Thousands in all leading varieties at rock bottom prices. Squab breeding stock our specialty. 16 years' experience; testimonials from thousands satisfied customers; start with our \$ \$ \$ \$ making birds and success is assured. Large free illustrated matter on request. Providence Squab Co., Providence, R. I. 8-3

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

BUFF ROCKS—2 fine cocks \$5.00 each. Good hens, \$1.25. Best eggs, 15 cents each. Noyes, Box 273, New London, Conn.

PULLETS and breeding stock, in large or small lots. Bred to lay Barred Plymouth Rocks. Quality and satisfaction guaranteed. Prices low. M. P. Jones, Newport, Maine. 8-2

CLENMERE Buff Rocks. P. B. Metcalf, Winchester, Mass. Ann. Buff Ply. Rock Club. 9-4

CUT price sale 500 W. P. Rocks yearling hens; also a few March and April pullets and cockerels. Prices right. M. E. Abernethy, Bristol, Vt. 9-1

POULTRY FOODS.

BULLETIN ON BALANCED RATIONS absolutely free; tells how to compound at home most economical and healthful mash, chick foods, scratch foods. Drop postal giving your dealer's name and address to. Henola Food Co., Box 405E, Newark, N. J.

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TO buy, sell or exchange property, address Northwestern Business Agency, Minneapolis, Minn.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

S. C. REDS. Fall sale of cockerels, \$2 to \$8. Cir. free. G. C. Mann, Wilmington, Vt. 9-1

OLD ACRES. Foxboro, Mass., Rhode Island Red eggs. Prices reduced one-third to one-half after June 1st. A wonderful chance to obtain eggs from our dark, brilliant, red winners. Send for book and mating list. Wm. C. Stephens, Manager, Foxboro, Mass.

RHODE ISLAND REDS, Houdans, Embden and Toulouse Geese and Pekin Ducks for sale in lots of any number and at all prices. Be sure and write. Daniel P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.

RHODE ISLAND WHITES.

JOCJOY originated the Rhode Island Whites. His free booklet gives convincing proof that they are the business fowl. It also gives practical information how to make poultry pay. Address, J. A. Jocjoy, Towanda, Pa. 7-4

WANTED.

WANT TO BUY at reasonable price 100 early hatched pullets. White Leghorns preferred. Eliz. M. Yeomans, Andover, Conn. 9-1

YOUNG MAN 23 years old, good education and character, 2 1/2 years' experience, wants position on poultry farm. Not afraid of work. Fred Cockerell, 267 Sutton St., North Andover, Mass. 9-1

THOROUGHLY experienced poultryman would like position on gentleman's estate. Single; good references. W. care Farm-Poultry. 9-1

POSITION by experienced poultryman of 28. Mr. Leonard, 178 Hillside St., Roxbury, Mass. 9-1

WANTED, strictly fresh henery eggs all year round; pay five cents above N. Y. quotations. Plant with less than 1000 laying hens not considered. Louis Funcke, 288 Amsterdam Ave., N. Y. City. 8-1

WATERFOWL.

FOR THE FALL FAIRS, Embden Geese or Indian Runner Ducks. Good ones. Miss Little, Clyde, N. Y.

WYANDOTTES.

SILVER WYANDOTTES. Unequaled in every thing that goes to make the Wyandotte type; silvery top color and uniform open lacing. They have done more to improve the Silvers in this country than any other strain. Send for mating list. J. C. Jodrey, Box A, Danvers, Mass.

MARTIN'S Regals White Wy. 90 yearlings at a sacrifice. Colchester, Chicopee, Mass. 8-2

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A Group of Colony Houses on Plant of Dunlap-Schwind Co., Chatham, N. Y.

Shows to Occur.

New England States.

- Nov. 7-9. Cheshire, Conn. Card, Judge. Geo. A. Tucker, Sec'y.
 Nov. 22-24. Holyoke, Mass. Card and Tasker, Judges. Percy M. Alden, Sec'y.
 Nov. 27-30. Bristol, R. I. James F. Clarkson, 10 Mt. Hope Ave., Sec'y.
 Nov. 28-Dec. 1. West Haven, Ct. Andrews, Card, Smith, Graves, and Bauucl, Judges. W. J. Maher, Box 1525, New Haven, Sec'y.
 Dec. 5-7. Bellows Falls, Vt. Tasker and Shove, Judges. A. T. Pierce, Sec'y.
 Dec. 12-14. Greenfield, Mass. Tasker and Weed, Judges. Otto Keller, Sec'y.
 Dec. 12-14. Bridgeport, Conn. Bunnell, Graves, and Ives, Judges. W. E. Hulsey, Fairfield, Sec'y.
 Dec. 26-29. Derry, N. H. F. E. Buzzell, Sec'y.
 Dec. 26-30. Barre, Vt. Edward Chessier, 35 Carrier St., Sec'y.
 Dec. 29-Jan. 1. Meriden, Conn. Shove, Bonfoey, and Ives, Judges. L. T. Hedeler, Sec'y.
 Jan. 17-20. Waterbury, Conn. Card and Welles, Judges. G. Fred Moore, Sec'y.

North Middle States.

- Nov. 28-Dec. 2. Mohnton, Pa. Cornman and Broster, Judges. J. H. Fichtorn, Sec'y.
 Nov. 29-Dec. 2. Bridgeton, N. J. Hnyler, Hixon, and Stanton, Judges. Paul G. Springer, Sec'y.
 Nov. 29-Dec. 2. Williamsport, Pa. Geo. P. Stryker, 1149 Market St., Sec'y.
 Dec. 5-9. New York, N. Y. Grand Central Palace. L. D. Howell, Mineola, N. Y., Sec'y.
 Dec. 5-9. Reading, Pa. C. H. Glase, Sec'y.
 Dec. 6-7. Hammonton, N. J. B. P. Gray, Sec'y.
 Dec. 13-16. Paterson, N. J. Tompkins, Bonfoey, Card, Young, and Stanton, Judges. Clinton Terwilliger, 96 Montclair Ave., Sec'y.
 Jan. 2-6. Camden, N. J. W. Lee Springs, Sec'y.
 Jan. 8-13. Rochester, N. Y. Webb, Denny, Stanton, Mosher, and Bradford, Judges. F. A. Newman, Box 472, Sec'y.
 Jan. 8-13. Easton, Pa. Wolschffer and Bean, Judges. S. W. Godley, Sec'y.
 Jan. 11-13. Passaic, N. J. Wm. Hundertmark, Sec'y.
 Jan. 15-19. Utica, N. Y. Ingalls, Judge. F. W. Batsford, Sec'y.
 Jan. 15-20. Pittsburgh, Pa. Graves, Rigg, Ulrich, Kummer, and Tompkins, Judges. G. H. Hilderbrand, Sec'y.
 Jan. 15-20. Scranton, Pa. Seaman, Alden, Brown, Minshall, Stanton, Barber, and Albers, Judges. O. W. Payne, Sec'y.
 Jan. 16-20. Greensburg, Pa. R. M. Zundel, Sec'y.
 Jan. 17-20. Grove City, Pa. Mosher, Judge. Chas. H. Daugherty, Sec'y.
 Jan. 22-28. Buffalo, N. Y. McNeil, Burgott, Card, Webb, Schwab, Tucker, Jarvis, and Maundier, Judges. Stanley A. Merkley, 36 Coal and Iron Exchange, Sec'y.

South Middle States.

- Dec. 13-18. St. Mary's, W. Va. Frank J. Rife, Sec'y.
 Jan. 11-13. Henrietta, N. C. Simons, Judge. O. R. Coffield, Ellenboro, Sec'y.
 Jan. 15-20. Charleston, W. Va. S. G. Case, Judge. G. R. Edgar, Sec'y.

Southern States.

- Oct. 16-21. Fort Smith, Ark. Glen Fleming, Sec'y.
 Nov. 21-25. Honey Grove, Tex. Davis and Morgan, Judges. A. S. Galbrath, Sec'y.
 Nov. 27-30. Savannah, Ga. Loring Brown, Judge. J. F. Bernhardt, Sec'y.
 Nov. 27-Dec. 2. Pine Bluff, Ark. F. W. Phillips, Sec'y.
 Dec. 11-16. Atlanta, Ga. Thos. M. Poole, Box 943, Sec'y.
 Dec. 18-23. Beaumont, Tex. Marshall and Northrop, Judges. J. L. McKinley, Sec'y.
 Jan. 8-13. Atlanta, Ga. Cornman, Saylor, and Myers, Judges. C. O. Darwell, Sec'y.

Near West States.

- Sep. 14-23. Nashville, Tenn. John A. Murkin, Mgr.
 Sept. 25-30. Knoxville, Tenn. L. B. Audlgier, Sec'y.
 Sept. 27-Oct. 4. Memphis, Tenn. Delano, Savage, and Oke, Judges. R. B. Buchanan, 322 South Main St., Sec'y.
 Nov. 23-26. Quincy, Ill. Russell, Judge. Albert D. Smith, Sec'y.
 Dec. 13-16. Scottsburg, Ind. Schocke, Judge. B. M. Owens, Sec'y.
 Dec. 13-16. Winchester, Ky. W. K. Cummings, Sec'y.
 Dec. 13-17. Moline, Ill. Myers, Judge. Oscar Hogberg, 1409-14th St., Sec'y.
 Dec. 18-23. Polo, Ill. W. H. Snook, Sec'y.

- Dec. 30-Jan. 4. Jackson, Mich. Tucker and Travers, Judges. W. O. Wellman, Sec'y.
 Jan. 1-5. Grand Ledge, Mich. Otto, Judge. W. G. Shane, Sec'y.
 Jan. 2-6. Berne, Ind. Samuel Simison, Sec'y.
 Jan. 8-12. Lowell, Ind. Metracken, Judge. F. Maloy, Sec'y.
 Jan. 9-13. Portland, Ind. Clipp, Judge. H. V. Tormohlen, Sec'y.
 Jan. 17-22. Fort Wayne, Ind. Northup, Judge. B. M. Owens, Sec'y.
 Feb. 1-3. Cambridge, Ohio. Heck, Judge. James Cook Sarchet, Sec'y.
 Feb. 5-9. Indianapolis, Ind. C. R. Millhous, Lebanon, Sec'y.

Central West States.

- Sept. 26-Oct. 7. Oklahoma City, Okla. I. S. Mahan, Sec'y.
 Sept. 30-Oct. 6. Sedalia, Mo. T. E. Quisenberry, Monahan Grove, Sec'y.
 Nov. 27-Dec. 2. St. Louis, Mo. T. W. Orent, 4731 Easton Ave., Sec'y.
 Jan. 1-6. Winona, Minn. Hess, Judge. Wm. Kuhlmann, Sec'y.
 Jan. 2-5. Atlantic, Iowa. Southard, Judge. G. G. Jeck, Sec'y.
 Jan. 2-7. Topeka, Kans. Smith, Roberts, Branch, Tompkins, Buyers, Rhodes, Palmer, and Morton, Judges. E. W. Rankin, Sec'y.

Brockton Fair Poultry Show.

October 3-6, 1911.

Everything indicates that the enlarged and improved facilities of the management of the Poultry Department of the Brockton Fair, will be used to their fullest capacity and all previous records far out-classed. The entry fee for poultry is 50c. per bird, with regular premiums of \$3.00 for first, and \$1.50 for second prize winners. In addition to these regular premiums, which it should be noted are very liberal in proportion to the entry fee, \$400.00 in gold specials is offered. The entry fee for pigeons is 25c. per bird, with first prizes \$1.50 and second prizes 75c. There are also many extra gold specials on pigeons. Entries close Sept. 20th.

For premium list and full information, write to Mr. E. T. Packard, Brockton, Mass.

The Great Topeka Show.

December 4 to 9, 1911.

The poultry show held last winter in Topeka went down in history as being one of the most successful, highest class, quality shows of the year. Poultry from seventeen states found their way to the Kansas town. This included exhibits from Canada, Miss., New York, Vermont, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa and many other states. The judging last year was done by the comparison method, and eight of the world's best judges were employed. This year arrangements have been made to judge by the same system and twenty of our best national judges will be on hand. On account of the keenness of competition, the prizes will be carried on down to seventh place; some of the best cash prizes ever offered will be paid. Several of the large specialty clubs have already decided to hold their national meeting and show in connection with the Topeka show. The Kansas branch of the A. P. A. will hold its annual meeting at Topeka during show week.

Russell F. Palmer was made secretary

of the show for this year and is now hard at work getting out the premium list. He writes that it is his ambition and aim to have all the judging done and all awards made, including specials, besides having all premiums paid by six o'clock Monday, the first day of the show.

As the Topeka show will close Saturday night at ten o'clock, and as the Chicago show does not begin until Wednesday or Thursday of the following week, it is going to enable eastern breeders to show at Topeka one week and then drop back into the Chicago show next week.

The entries for the Topeka show will close Friday, Nov. 17th. Every poultry breeder should write Russel F. Palmer, Topeka, Kans., to send them one of the premium lists as soon as off the press.

Great Laying—On Paper.

A New Zealander, Mr. S. H. Scott, contributed to the May issue of the *Reliable Poultry Journal* a wonderful story of his "Wonder Strain" of Indian Runner Ducks, the foundation of which, according to his story, was a duck which laid "320 large eggs in 365 days" and of more great laying done by this duck subsequently, and by a few of her descendants. His figures are not impossible—for an occasional specimen—or a few specimens given very careful attention and forced feeding, and which happen to take kindly to being fussed with and to be able to stand heavy feeding. But though his figures are not impossible, that fact does not authenticate them, or give them any value as records, even though he claims that his report is absolutely accurate. Says he, "I give you my detailed account so as to convince my readers that my claim in reference to my duck laying 320 eggs in 365 days was not false." Now as a matter of fact, the detailed account is not given, or if given is not published; but what difference does it make, anyway? Details and records on paper are of no more value than the word of the man who makes them. A man who will lie orally will lie any way. It is the easiest thing in the world to fabricate records and falsify accounts. This is not saying that this man did either. It is simply pointing out the fact that he kept, or says he kept records, has little weight in itself.

The few instances of heavy laying given, supposing them authentic, do not show that he has a "strain" of wonderful layers. It takes more than a few instances in several generations to warrant describing a stock as a "strain" of heavy layers.

Buff and Red Fowls to Have Special Class at Chicago.

December 14 to 19, 1911.

The great Mid-West Poultry and Pet Stock Association has decided to add a new feature at their third annual exhibition, December, 1911, in the breeding pen entries for Buff and Red fowls. Heretofore all breeds and varieties have competed alike in breeding pen entries. The pens were made up of old and young birds, or both. This rule has worked satisfactorily in nearly all breeds, but is a decided handicap to all fowls with Buff and Red plumage, and believing that many choice breeding hens which should have been shown have been left at home by the exhibitors, or left out of the money by the judges, the association has decided to make two classes for breeding pens of Buff and Red fowls, one class to consist of cockerels and pullets and the other of cocks and hens, the two classes to compete separately.

This system should bring out the greatest collection of Rhode Island Red hens that ever graced a show room, and should very materially assist the Buff Orpingtons, Buff Wyandottes, Buff Rocks, and Buff Leghorns.

The premium list for this great show will be ready November 1st. Entries close November 28th. For full particulars address THEO HEWES, Sec'y, Indianapolis, Ind.

The Lay of a Pullet.

Don't slight this little lay, my friend
 Nor miss the moral at the end.
 'Tis warranted to do you good
 If you'll digest it as you should.

A pullet—quite an addle-pate
 While strutting 'round the hen-park gate,
 One day was cackling loud and long;
 And cackling big and cackling strong.

And cackling thus she seemed to say,
 "See what an egg I laid today!"
 But bustling 'round she chanced to spy
 A crate of hen fruit standing by.

She pecked and pried full long and well
 Nor found her trade-mark on a shell.
 For, though at poultry shows a prize,
 Her eggs were still but pullet size.

Vexed was this pompous pullet then,
 For in her mind she was a hen.
 She shed her high and mighty air
 And cut out cackling then and there.

MILTON MURDOCK, in Successful Farming.

S. and R. C. Rhode Island Reds

Hundreds of young birds for sale. Birds for exhibition or business. Also a few 1911 breeders at low prices. Our Catalogue is free. Write us fully what you want for quality.

WHITE BIRCH POULTRY FARM,

W. H. WITHINGTON, Mgr.,

131 Union St.,

BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Singing Hens Lay Eggs

Would you give 3c a month per hen to have your fowls singing and merry and feeling fine—all vigorous and healthy, with hens laying steadily? You can accomplish this with Sheridan's Condition Powder—a scientific poultry tonic (not a food), which aids digestion, gives appetite, tones and conditions. Great for starting chickens right and great during moulting period. Try it, and turn your moping, do-nothing hens into paying ones.

Sheridan's CONDITION Powder



I. S. JOHNSON & CO.
 Boston, Mass.



To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

Scratchings from the Litter of Our Exchange Table.

SAYS the *Pacific Fanciers Monthly*, "We have had enough and to spare of attempts of poultry artists to portray perfection in poultry. They simply can't do it, and the sooner we admit the fact and cut out the 'art work' in our 'Standard', the better for the pockets and peace of mind of all concerned."

The same paper, noting that the *American Poultry World* has been sending out a "bargain coupon" with an offer of the paper four years for a dollar says, "That's but 25 cents per year, and the *World* costs more than that per copy to print. Of course the advertiser is supposed to make up the difference, but it may be a case of losing money on each subscriber, but getting so many of them that the publishers can afford to do it, a sort of Chinese puzzle which has landed many a poultry paper in the ditch of bankruptcy."

Editor Harker is not up on all the fine points of the game. If the American Poultry Association should select an official organ and pay that organ 25 cents for each member, to send the paper to them whether they wanted it or not, how could that paper continue to charge its regular subscribers fifty cents? Some way must be found of "whipping the devil around the stump." The official organ, however, is not likely to materialize in the shape of a subsidy to any poultry journal. An official organ with a field strictly its own would not be a bad thing for the association. The association cannot publish a paper of the type now in the field, and it certainly would be very foolish to pay anyone else for publishing its notices. It would be much more rational to have the payments coming the other way.

But four years for a dollar for the *A. P. W.*? Incredible! Mr. Harker must be mistaken. No paper would cut rates like that unless it had to; and we all know that the *A. P. W.* is officially described as having enjoyed marvelous prosperity. Nothing like it.

Profitable Poultry, (No. 2), Boston, seems to be entitled to the prize for the most inappropriate cover illustration. The space in the cover design for special illustrations is occupied in the July issue by a very crude drawing of two hens engaged in battle, under which is the legend "First Principles."

First principles of what? Of profitable poultry?

A doubly copyrighted article on "Business Efficiency Applied to Poultry Industry" by P. R. P. is the leading feature of the same paper. P. R. P. is presumably P. R. Park of the Park & Pollard Co. His idea of business efficiency seems to be to use intensive methods, fireless brooders and dry feeds. For these methods he claims much more than is consistent with the suggestions to advertisers appearing on the "Publisher's Page" in the same issue, which we naturally assume also emanates from Mr. Park as principal owner of *Profitable Poultry*.

The truth about intensive methods, fireless brooders and dry feeds, is that they are all good things in their places, but a good deal of a delusion when out of place. To talk about such things (in distinction from extensive methods, heated brooders, and other methods of feeding) as *scientific* is all nonsense; and to describe results from this kind of scientific methods as more certain and more profitable, is not in accord with general facts. By special instances selected to suit, one can prove anything he wants to, to anyone who is eager to be convinced. But that is the reverse of scientific.

Through the courtesy of *The North American*, my pile of exchanges contains the issues of that paper containing references to their projected egg laying competition, which they describe as the "first held in the United States." That isn't strictly correct. It hasn't been held yet, and before it several were projected, and some

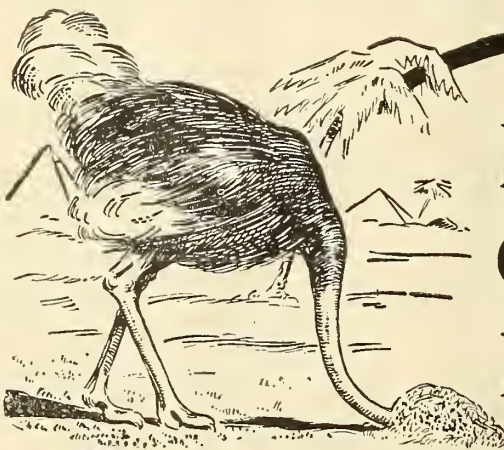
of these made more or less (mostly less) progress toward realization. The last paper received to date contains the rules to govern the competition. What interests me most in these is the financial aspect they present. Competition is limited to 100 pens of five birds each. Each contestant is to send six birds that in case of accident to one of a competing pen the extra bird may be substituted. What

will be done in case more than one competing bird dies is not apparent. Neither is it apparent whether in case of a substitution, the official record is to be the record of the pen, or the record of the birds. That is, if a hen is taken out and another put in, is the record the record of hens laying while kept in that pen, or is the idea to get the record of the five hens belonging to each man, which lay the best during the year?

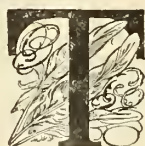
If the official record is to be the pen record I don't see any need of trap nesting and keeping individual records. I can think of reasons that might be given

for keeping individual records, but none of them are valid reasons. If individual records are to be kept, there is no sound reason for limiting pens to five birds each, and there are some good reasons for putting in more birds. If individual records are to be kept, it is a question whether it is advantageous, or profitable, or necessary to pen the birds of each competitor separately. Why not band them and keep in larger flocks?

Competitors are to pay \$25 entry fee, \$10 of this with the application, the balance by October 1st, and in case they fail to make the second payment, the first is



Don't Be an Ostrich and Deceive Yourself



HERE are many poultrymen, operating good sized farms, who seem to think that they cannot profitably use the Hall Mammoth Incubator—that it's too large, too expensive, etc. So they go along without even investigating. In the meantime, their neighbor installs a Hall equipment, and gets the cream of the trade. Many do custom hatching, and some go into the baby chick business,—in this way increase their income and decrease the operating expenses

Don't YOU be an Ostrich! Investigate!

Mr. Craddock, the writer of the letter printed below, INVESTIGATED THE HALL EQUIPMENT, and DOES NOT REGRET IT. Read his letter carefully.

IGLOE FARM

R. E. Craddock, Manager

Custom Hatching and Day Old Chicks

White Wyandottes

White Leghorns

Largest and Best Equipped Poultry Plant in the South

Registered Berkshire Hogs

Holstein-Friesian Cattle

THE HALL MAMMOTH INCUBATOR CO
UTICA, N. Y.

LYNCHBURG, VA., R. F. D. 1., July 24, 1911.

Gentlemen:—

When I decided last fall to put in a poultry plant out on my farm I began to look into the merits of the manufacturers of incubator and brooder systems, and had correspondence with several of them, and one manufacturer came here to see me. After going over the matter thoroughly I finally decided to purchase my outfit from you, and I write to say that I do not regret my decision in this matter. I find the incubator and the brooder system to be just what you claimed for it, and, considering that it was late before I could complete the buildings and install the equipment, I am very well satisfied with the results accomplished so far.

We hatched from our own eggs about 7000 chickens, and also hatched a good many chickens for outside parties. As a whole the percentage of chickens hatched from the eggs is very good. In some instances, though, it was small; but on those occasions I think the fault was with the eggs.

Your brooder system worked all right and we lost very few chickens after taking them out of the incubator. As this is the first year, and we had to buy all of the stock, we did not operate on a large scale, but expect next season to do a much larger business in this line, and may decide to double the capacity of my incubator.

I write this letter, as I think it is due you to know that the outfit purchased from you has given satisfactory results, and that I appreciate the promptness in which you handled the order I gave you.

Yours truly,

A. P. CRADDOCK.

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Write us a postal this very day for our catalog "Fact and Argument." Of course, it is free. And it may give you some pointers about enlarging your present plant; it has numerous illustrations of several of the largest and most successful poultry farms in America.

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to be forfeited. The eggs are to belong to "the proposition." Should there be a "surplus over and above the economical operation of the competition," it is to be divided among the owners of the competing pens. There is a very interesting practical question here, one for those thinking of competing to consider. Why should there be any question about a surplus if 1000 hens, selected to make records as layers, were placed in charge of an expert poultryman, and he given to start with \$2500 for the expenses of handling them for a year and keeping records?

While I don't take any stock in laying competitions as scientific propositions, I must admit that, as a business proposition, the opportunity to handle a scheme of this kind would appeal to me. And if any responsible person will only guarantee me, for ten years, all the entries I can look after on a basis of five dollars for the expenses of each hen, I to keep the eggs also, I'll quit editing a paper and go into the competition business. I'll put no limit on the number of entries, I'll provide all the equipment and appliances needed, pay all costs of keeping records, and pay the expenses and fees of three inspectors to inspect the work at intervals (they to select their own times and come without notification) and to audit the records. I'll further agree to be responsible for any birds that are lost or that die, and to pay each owner at the end of the year, as his share of the proceeds, \$2 with each hen returned to him, and I'll make more money than any poultryman has ever made;—if only enough people will put up the \$25 and the birds. 'Tis a beautiful system. Think this phase of it over before you make your deposit.

The editor of the *Australian Hen* is on the war path, on the trail of the back-biter and slanderers in poultry circles in Australia. He gives fair warning to all that he is going to take up various cases. There is, first of all, the case of the man who declared that said editor, individually and collectively, "couldn't tell a hen from a cock."

"It is just possible that these remarks affected our business," says the Australian editor.

Then there is the case of a man who "makes a practice of running down the *Hen*." "This is, of course, slanderous," says the editor, "and we give the party fair warning that further lapses will not be tolerated."

Our Australian contemporary should not be disturbed about such little things. The saying, "wee unto you when all men speak well of you," does not apply to editors, for it is impossible for all men or women to speak well of any editor; but it suggests that a little of this sort of thing should be expected.

The *N. Y. Poultry Journal* says that Dr. T. H. Cox, of Oneida Co., N. Y., has a new breed of fowls which he calls "Romohawks," produced from crosses of Black Minorca, Light Brahma, and Black Sumatra, which are "a mottled bronze" in color, medium in size, remarkable layers, etc. The originator will seek to have them admitted to the "Standard." We can tell him right now that there is not one chance in a thousand of their being admitted, if they answer the description, and even less than that if they don't.

Sometimes I wonder whether I am behind the times, or ahead, or scattered all along the route. It would seem that you're not strictly up-to-date in poultry keeping unless you use sprouted oats for green food. Sprouted oats have never appealed to me. Though the sprouting is done on a larger scale, the process always reminded me of the practices sometimes advocated of growing a little green stuff in a box, or breeding worms in a pit for animal food, and such like. I'd rather grow cabbage than sprout oats, and if I get out of other succulent food, and the hens can't get at the grass, I have to confess that the hens are going to go without green food until the grass comes. Sprouted oats means to me either that better preparations for succulent food are neglected, or that the conditions are not favorable to permanent profitable poultry culture. How many people are there that are using sprouted oats on any con-

siderable scale for poultry feeding in a stock that has to pay—with profits on the poultry?

Dr. P. T. Woods is after the belt as champion disagreeer. In the May number of the *American Poultry Journal* he says: "In the years we have known G. M. C., there have been mighty few times when we agreed with him, or he with us." Again, "when he (John H. Robinson) disagrees with you it is pretty good evidence that you are right." Now will the doctor kindly explain what his position would be in a case where Curtis and I agreed? Ditto, in a case where he and I agreed together but not with Curtis?

Dr. Brigham, editor of the *Progressive Poultry Journal*, has a weakness for alliteration, which frequently leads him to say things in such ways that they had better been left unsaid. Under the heading, "The Gamblers' Game," he discusses low prices of eggs, and advises producers to keep eggs more in their own control, and so get the benefits of high prices, by preserving their own eggs. This is not good advice. Common experience shows that there is more profit to the producer in selling his eggs fresh than in trying to preserve them. There are other reasons for this, but the first of all is that the producer is not equipped to properly handle eggs in this fashion.

But the point on which the article is most open to criticism is the tone of it—the attitude toward middlemen. Storage is referred to as "the gambler's game." Those who engage in it are called "storage sharks" and "storage pirates." Such terms are wholly misleading. The development of cold storage has been a boon to egg producers. It has tended to equalize prices throughout the year, and to raise the general level of prices. It has also been a boon to consumers, giving them better goods throughout the year, and at more moderate prices during the greater part of the period of low production.

Buying eggs for storage is not necessarily gambling. As a matter of fact, very little of it is gambling. Legitimate speculation in products of all kinds is a necessary part of the distribution of products. Instead of inflaming producers of eggs against those who buy for storage, poultry editors should call their attention to their own shortcomings. The proportion of poor and bad eggs usually sent to market with fresh, and as fresh, has made the honesty of the farmers of this country a by-word among those who handle and deal in eggs. As a perishable product, the egg has to be carefully inspected at intervals during its passage from producer to consumer. But apart from deterioration due to natural causes, the average lot of eggs is unsatisfactory at every stage of its progress, because producers and country collectors are either careless or dishonest about the quality of the eggs they sell.

Except for producers who sell direct to

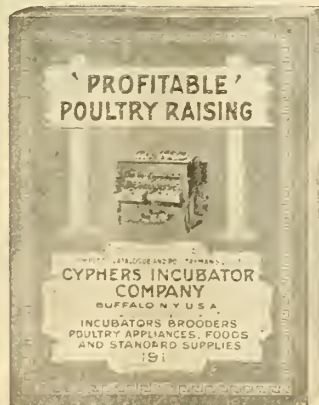
consumers, it is almost the universal rule that little attention is given to quality. It is the common practice when prices of eggs are rising, to hold eggs back for weeks and even months in order to get the benefit of the rise in prices. This is with eggs not especially preserved. Just held under ordinary conditions. It might be assumed that the middlemen's stories of bad quality in eggs were given out to throw the blame back on the farmer. This will not hold, for, in the first place, the middlemen are responsible to those to whom they sell the eggs, and have to sort and grade their eggs, and practically guarantee everything as they represent it; and in the second place, whenever an effort is made to develop co-operative selling of eggs, those handling the eggs find that their greatest difficulty is to get the producers to grade their eggs carefully and honestly.

A man out in California makes a warm protest in *Pacific Coast Fanciers' Monthly* against making the poultry show at the San Francisco Exposition in 1915 an international show. Says he "What we want is a *Pacific Coast Show*—pure and simple." His idea is that the business brought to

those who show poultry and win at this exhibition should belong to Pacific Coast fanciers. This man need not worry. Barring a few special exhibits, the entries are most likely to be entirely from the Pacific Coast. Mighty few birds can stand a trip across the Continent and go right into a show and win. As to the mass of their exhibits, all poultry shows are local. Any big show may have scattering entries from many states, but the most of the birds come from the near states.

An "Automatic Chick Greaser" is advertised in a contemporary as "The latest and best invention now before the people to make poultry culture profitable. It applies a small amount of grease to the top of the chick's head when it drinks." The "invention" is attached to a drinking fountain designed for use in connection with it. What next? A poultry keeper who uses "grease" on chicks for lice is about a generation behind the times. Dalmatian insect powder and a little powder gun are most effective for head lice on chicks, and you can treat them with powder about twenty times as fast as with grease.

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Poultry and Garden Notes.

THERE is a story of a little girl who, in a composition on "the deer," wrote: "The deer has a tail, but it must not be talked about."

The teacher was puzzled to account for such an expression, but finally discovered that this was the little girl's rendering of her own statement that "a deer has no tail to speak of." Our garden this year is on that order. In this section we have had the driest of three dry years in succession. Except on very low, wet land, there has not been at any time moisture enough in the soil for normal growth of vegetation. On other land, established stuff simply lives and stands still. Newly planted stuff, including trees and shrubs, has a hard time of it. As there was no time during the spring when conditions invited an amateur to plant, I planted very little. Did not even haul out manure, except for the vegetable garden plot. So I'm ahead on fertilizer, anyway. Also, I have still most of the seed saved last year which will probably be better than I can buy next spring. But—as to the garden—the less said the better. We let it pass and hope for better things next year.

In fruit, strawberries were a failure; cherries the best crop we ever had. Grapes are promising, especially since we got a little rain. Apples, we'll have enough for ourselves. Peaches look good.

Poultry is more satisfactory. I told in the last issue how the hot wave affected the old stock. The young birds hardly noticed it, and have come along finely. We never had them do better *after they were out*. In hatches, we had the common experience. The average per cent hatched was low, though fertility was good; but we got some fine hatches, and some poor ones at the same time under conditions which suggest that the condition and vitality of the hen, or perfect conditions in incubation, have a great deal more to do with good hatching than is usually supposed.

The vitality of a hen is not a fixed, constant quantity. It varies from day to day, and from time to time, just as that of a human being does. We commonly assume that a hen that is laying, or that is not conspicuously out of condition, is all right in vitality, or, at least, so good that lack of vitality need not be considered as something affecting incubation. But we do not and cannot make fine distinctions in vitality of hens as we do in our own state of bodily health. If I have been overworked for a while, and am tired, I may continue to do routine work of such quality that it will pass. I may even, working on my nerve, force myself to do a good quality of work. The same with physical work. Everyone knows what a difference the condition of body and mind ordinarily makes in the amount and quality of work done, and in the ease with which it is done.

Our eggs have been generally very fertile—strongly fertile this season. Our breeding hens were the largest and most vigorous birds in the flock. Very few of them were set until late in the season. The sitters were from the cull Brahmas and from some two year old Columbian Wyandotte and cross bred hens. A sitter in robust health usually brought off a good hatch. Some that looked in good condition didn't seem to stand the wear of the hatching process, and acted tired before the three weeks were up. The cause was, probably, climatic—and the same which has affected hatches generally, not only for fowls, but for all kinds of poultry.

How can we remedy such conditions? When I kept 600 to 800 hens, and hatched several thousand chicks a year by natural methods, I rarely failed to get good hatches and high average hatches from good fertile eggs. This I attributed to the fact that I selected only hens in good condition for sitters, and whenever a sitting hen began to go off badly in condition, replaced her with another. We had hens enough so that we could do this. But as things have been with us for some years past, we don't have as many sitters as we want early in the season, even by taking any hen that will set. So we set anything and everything, and take chances. Is this the better way? I don't

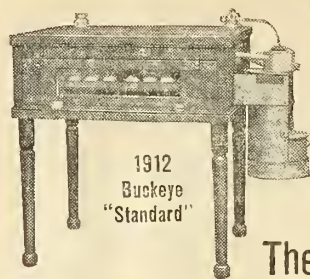
know. I presume that it is about as broad as it is long.

It was the commonly accepted theory years ago that poor hatches usually meant weak chicks. No doubt it does in some cases, but that it does not generally has been evident ever since the present period of general poor hatches set in, seven or eight years ago. It was noticed then, and has been ever since, that in a great many cases of poor hatches the chicks that did hatch were notably strong. A possible reason for this is that as infertile and dead eggs were tested out, the smaller number of eggs left got better heat in natural incubation and better ventilation in artificial hatches.

Our hatches of duck eggs were generally poor, averaging much lower than the hen eggs. Both ducks and chickens have grown well—never better. There was a little while in the extremely dry weather in July following the second hot spell, when the ground was very hot and dry and some of the smaller chickens cooped where the grass was burned out, began to lose color and plumpness of the legs. We put them where there was a little moisture in the ground, and the color soon began to come back. There's nothing like running through wet grass in the morning to give chickens the kind of legs we like to see.

Our young birds, not being shut in at night, are out with the first streak of dawn in the morning. They clean up any feed that may have been left from the night before, get all the early worms and bugs they can, and a good supply of green food, and are ready for a breakfast of mash about 7 o'clock.

While I quit feeding grit to fowls and chickens years ago, I've continued to use it for young ducks and goslings. We have not raised many of these, and though I've fed occasionally a good deal of cracked corn to both ducklings and goslings, there have been times when feeding too much corn seemed to cause trouble which a feed of coarse grit would remedy. This year we had one small brood of late hatched ducklings come off just as my boy was leaving for a week vacation. I thought I would try the experiment of giving them a little hard grain and no gravel or grit. They were cooped on grass and given mash three times a day. When I fed the hens at noon, I gave these ducks a handful of whole wheat. This was just before their noon feed of mash. Then, about four o'clock, when the fowls, chickens, and old ducks got cracked corn, I gave a handful to these little ducks and about a handful apiece to the older ducklings. The experiment is not sufficient to draw conclusions, but the little experience leads me to believe that for ducklings on grass, or plentifully supplied with green food, a suitable quantity of hard grain can be given without bad results, and may obviate the need of grit. I have to confess that I am very sceptical about grit being



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a necessity for poultry of any kind. I incline more and more to the opinion that the eating of grit indicates a wrong condition that should be remedied in some other way.

The Poultry Show at the Illinois State Fair.

The premium lists for the great Illinois State Fair, to be held in Springfield, Ill., Sept. 29 to Oct. 7, are now being distributed, and every poultry fancier should have one. The list offers \$75,000 in premiums.

Special attention will be given to the poultry department. O. L. McCord, of Danville, Ill., is in charge of this department, which means that the show will be

conducted along the lines of all big poultry exhibitions of the country.

The poultry building at the Illinois State Fair is one of the great buildings on the fair grounds, and is considered the finest and best of its kind in the country.

A large tent will be erected just south of the poultry building which will seat 300 persons, and will be headquarters for the Illinois branch of the American Poultry Association, the Illinois Poultry Association, and the meeting place of all Specialty Clubs. All poultry associations, specialty clubs, and those interested in the advancement for better poultry and more of it, are cordially invited to make this their headquarters.

For further information regarding the poultry department address O. L. McCord, Danville, Ill.



Oculum, based on U. S. Government diagnosis, comes to the relief of the long-suffering poultry producers with this momentous assertion: "I can inoculate your fowls and increase the annual value of the poultry of the U. S. from \$1,000,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000. Let me help you." Oculum has overcome and thrust to the heart, White Diarrhea, Cholera, Roup and Gapes.

You can raise fowls in any quantity at a sure profit.

Oculum destroys the Cholera, Roup and White Diarrhea germ that kills yearly 75% of all fowls hatched, and also the Gape Worm.

From Bradley Bros., Lee, Mass

"Oculum" appears to be the long-needed remedy for cases of liver and bowel trouble, heretofore regarded as incurable. Have tried it also with satisfactory results upon a few cases of baby chicks—"incurables"—which did fair to fully recover.

From A. G. Dustin, Rose Lawn Poultry Farm South Framingham, Mass.

I enclose \$1.00 for bottle of "Oculum." I broke my bottle accidentally and find I cannot keep house without it, not so much for a cure all as for a smart tonic. What about handling this for you?

OCULUM

Farm, J. C. Fishel & Son, P. J. Armstrong, Mrs. Ellen Jacques, Oscar E. Miles, J. Gaylord Blair, Geo. A. Ruessler, N. R. Reynolds, Lewis T. McLean, Hugh Ross and hundreds of others.

Don't cling to the exploded theory that "nothing will cure," but join the army of money-making poultry raisers, who, after demonstration, are marching to success with the Oculum banner waving in the breezes.

Join now. For sale in two sizes, \$1.00 and 50c, by all progressive dealers and druggists. If yours does not handle it, send us his name and address. On receipt of price, Oculum will be mailed direct to you. Circular with Government diagnosis of Cholera and White Diarrhea free.

Order now and help make poultry a \$2,000,000,000 industry. Sample with dropper, 10c. (7)

Hancock Inoculum Company, Inc., Box H, Salem, Va.

A \$2,000,000,000 Poultry Product Builder

Raising chickens, ducks and turkeys will in the future be both a pleasure and profit.

Oculum is the best tonic for all fowls.

Large poultry plants are buying Oculum in quantities to be given away with orders for day-old chicks to insure the raising of them.

The financier, poultryman, farmer, merchant, in fact, all who raise, buy or sell poultry, will be enormously benefitted by the use of Oculum.

Oculum is a scientific remedy recommended by America's poultry leaders—U. R. Fishel, Bradley Bros., A. G. Dustin, Foxhurst, Geo. A. Ruessler, N. R. Reynolds, Lewis T. McLean, Hugh Ross and hundreds of others.

Cats, Birds, and Bugs.

MR. W. THEO. WITTMAN sends me the following newspaper clipping, with a request that I publish it as a contribution to the cat question:

The Family Cat.

"Under normal conditions," says Chicago's health commissioner, "all the epidemic and local diseases thrive upon the family cat. The woman who refuses to give her child a red hot poker as a toy has no hesitancy in putting into its arms the most dangerous plaything—the family cat. It is no difficult matter to quarantine the child sick with scarlet fever or diphtheria, but the family cat goes where it pleases and come when it likes."

Mr. Wittman also says, "and apropos of your article in late issue of F.-P., won't you please consider which it would be likely could be the more easily combated—a possible plague of rats and mice, or the ever increasing plague of insect life due to disappearance of our birds?"

As to the clipping, with all due respect to this health commissioner, and the whole class who strive for notoriety in this "easiest way to get it," this statement is not one to be taken very seriously. The cat is a possible carrier of disease germs. There are many others. A statement like this above is easily made—not so easily proved. Even when cases are cited—and they are not numerous—where a cat was responsible for transmission of disease, we must also, in justice to the cat, consider what proportion these are of all cases where a cat appears. To say that a cat is a more dangerous plaything for a child than a red hot poker is rank nonsense. No child ever fondled a red hot poker without being seriously injured. Millions of children have played with cats without being in the least harmed by them.

On the other point—the question asked by Mr. Wittman—much might be said. A full discussion would carry it away outside the sphere of a poultry journal. From some experience with plagues of

mice and rats, and a great deal of trouble with bugs, I'm inclined to think that I'd rather fight the bugs in the garden and field than the varmints in the house. But the alternative suggested in Mr. Wittman's question doesn't fully indicate the situation. The disappearance of birds is not altogether due to cats, nor is the disappearance of birds the sole and only cause of the plagues of insects. One reason for the disappearance of birds from some localities is that men drive them away or kill them. There are many people who are perfectly willing that the birds should eat destructive insects, but are not willing they should eat a little of the fruit they save, or might save, by the destruction of the insects. They not only do not encourage birds to come to their premises, but put up scarecrows to keep them away.

While in most states there are laws prohibiting the killing of song birds, it is notorious that in spite of the vigilance of game wardens, enormous numbers of birds are destroyed by the foreign element that does not appreciate the consequences of this destruction, and also by boys who, roaming with guns over areas where there is little legitimate game, shoot anything in sight.

For years the gypsy moth and brown tail moth have been playing havoc in Massachusetts. These pests find the most favorable places for propagation in the brush on unused lands, and the neglected trees on neglected lands. The work of fighting them on grounds that are cared for is unending because of the constant fresh arrivals from lands that are practically wild lands.

These pests in Massachusetts and adjoining state are not an unmixed evil. The people of this section in general have a habit of tree worship that, while coming from a fine trait in human nature, is quite abused in some of its workings. They keep old trees alive, nurse them and fuss with them, long after the trees should have been used for fire wood, and their places taken by others. The gypsy and brown tail have forced the removal of thousands of such trees, but there are still more thousands that ought to go.



Incubator House on Plant of Dunlap-Schwind Co., Chatham, N. Y.

Claims to Be the "Manifold Question Nuisance."

The editor is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Milo Hastings, in which that worthy individual claims authorship of the list of fool questions discussed in the article, "The Manifold Question Nuisance." We do not know how good his claim is, but think it should be allowed to stand until overthrown. We magnanimously allow Mr. Hastings the benefit of any doubts on the subject.

If he can take any pride or pleasure in anonymously making such a nuisance of himself, we are sure that there are none on whom the questions were inflicted who will not consider such an origin an extenuating circumstance.

We must, however, decline to furnish Mr. Hastings with a complimentary copy of the paper containing comments on his

questions. If it is of sufficient value to him to be preserved, as he says it will be, in his "serap book," he should count it cheap at five cents. If he admits the authorship of a list of fool questions only to get a copy of the paper, we feel sorry for him, but not five cents' worth. We wouldn't publish this further reference to the matter if we were sure that all who received the fool questions were advised of their origin. We think it is due not only to them, but to those who occasionally ask fool questions in good faith, to make Mr. Hastings' claims public.

A man who advertises himself as an expert authority on poultry matters ought to be above using this method of seeking information. If his purpose is serious he can get what he wants better by asking for information openly. If his object is simply to amuse himself, we must say that he should seek amusement by other methods than by issuing manifold questions of this kind, anonymously.

The History of Dry Mash Feeding.

AT THE Hawkesbury Agricultural College, Australia, in some tests of methods of feeding, the "dry mash system" did not make a good showing. I have not happened to see a report of the test, but my attention is attracted to a defense of the system by Mr. F. E. A. Gordon, in articles contributed by him to the *Australian Hen*, and also to the *New Zealand Poultry Journal*, and this is what particularly attracts my attention:

"I was amused at some of the expressions in some of the letters in your issue of May, 1910, on this same question. As an instance of what will be said by some men who simply know nothing of the matter, take the expression by 'H' in his letter of the date referred to: 'It is no new thing, for many years ago it was tried in America and found wanting.' Now I learned my business chiefly in America many years ago, and I have never allowed myself to lose touch with the American poultry world during the last twenty years, except about thirteen months when I allowed my subscription to *R. P. J.* to lapse, but it appears I must come to New Zealand to know what they do in America. It would surprise your readers to know that after a thirty-five years trial, the dry mash system of feeding is stronger in America today than it ever was, and that by far the largest half of American birds on poultry farms are fed on the dry mash system now—not many years ago."

Reading this, I wonder if I must go to New Zealand to learn what is being done in America. The dry mash "system" is probably more extensively used in America than ever before, though he would be a rash man who would undertake to say just what proportion of birds on poultry farms are fed in this way. I presume that my opportunities to know are at least as good as those of Mr. Gordon, and

I haven't any idea how extensive the use of the system is. A few years ago, when I tried to get a line on the situation, I found very few persons who were feeding dry mash using a strictly dry mash "system."

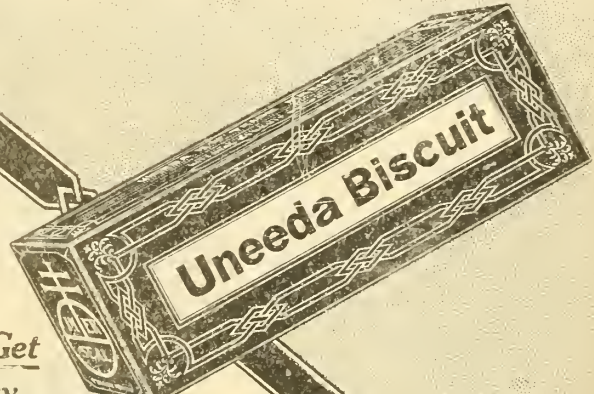
The system as a popular system is not old. I think the records will show that the modern dry mash episode began its career in public when P. R. Park contributed an article giving his ideas of feeding and his experiences in feeding dry mash, to this paper some ten years or more ago. Mr. Park became then, and has been ever since, the chief apostle of dry mash feeding. The writer did not agree with him then as to the general value of the method nor does he agree with him now. The method has features which appeal to some people, and which adapt it to some circumstances. It is a good thing in its place, but it is not the best method of feeding. Aside from the merits of the question, however, the fact is that dry mash feeding as a "system" is very recent in America.

I presume that dry mash feeding, and every other possible method of feeding, has been used to some extent somewhere, sometime, in the past; but, so far as I know, dry mash feeding never attracted attention until Mr. Park took it up. I used it for a special purpose twenty years ago. Hundreds of others may have used it, but it had no vogue. There was no general trial of it, and as a matter of fact the system, as a system, has not been fully tried out yet. The claims for it are exaggerated, and it is not yet on a bed rock basis.

A Dozen Eggs.

The Teacher—How many eggs are there in a dozen? The Pupil—Five fresh ones, five doubtful ones, and two bad ones.
—Cleveland Leader.

**You
Who Get
Hungry
Between Meals**



Don't deny yourself food till meal time.
When that midmorning hunger approaches, satisfy it with Uneeda Biscuit. These biscuits are little nuggets of nutrition. Each crisp soda cracker contains energy for thirty minutes more work.
Many business men eat them at ten in the morning. So do school children at recess.
They're more nutritive than bread. You can eat them dry—or with milk.
Uneeda Biscuit are always crisp and delightful.

5c

Never Sold in Bulk

In the moisture-proof package

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

TRADE TOPICS.

If its Wood—They Make it.

At this time it will be well to bear in mind that if you need any appliance manufactured of wood for use on your poultry plant, you can probably obtain it ready made for less than you could buy the lumber and build it yourself.

The E. C. Young Box Co., Randolph, Mass., make a specialty of supplying poultrymen with sanitary nests, grain chests, shipping coops, laying houses, oat sprouters, training coops, dry mash hoppers, handy feed boxes, colony houses, yard gates, etc., at prices that will commend them to economical buyers.

The goods are built by those experienced in the needs of practical poultrymen, and they can save you time and money on anything in their line. Send for their free, illustrated booklet of information.

Modern Food For Up-to-Date People.

Modern progress is in no way more emphatically demonstrated than in the betterment of foods.

For instance, when Graham flour was originated by Doctor Sylvester Graham nearly a century ago, although it then had many healthful properties, it was coarse and unpalatable in its crude state.

But modern science has so improved on the product of those early days that the Graham Crackers now baked by the National Biscuit Company are toothsome and appetizing, having a delicious nut-like flavor, and still retaining the utmost healthfulness—aiding and strengthening the digestion.

These modern, wholesome dainties—Graham Crackers—are packed in moisture and dust-proof packages, and can always be recognized by the well known In-cer-Seal trade mark.

White Diarrhea Insurance.

A splendid testimonial to the worth of Zenoleum is contained in the following communication from the well known Owen Farms, Vineyard Haven, Mass. Speaking of Zenoleum and its use in their incubators, Mr. Maurice F. Delano, Manager of the Owen Farms says:

"We have used Zenoleum with splendid results for disinfecting our incubators. We put about half a pint of Zenoleum in two gallons of water and wipe out the machine thoroughly with a sponge, being careful to go over all wood work, and get it into all the cracks and corners. We have never been troubled with white diarrhea here and we don't want to be, so we are just as careful in using preventatives as if we were troubled with the disease, and as our Experimental Station tells us that this trouble can come from an incubator, we feel very safe after washing up the machines thoroughly with Zenoleum."

The "Perfect" Fencing.

Those intending to buy wire fencing this fall, will be interested in the new catalogue just issued by the Pittsburgh Steel Co., Pittsburgh, Pa. The one hundred and forty-five styles and sizes of "Pittsburgh Perfect" fences are effectively and convincingly described, and one consulting this catalogue would have no difficulty in obtaining a fence perfectly adapted to any particular purpose. In the book are included plain wire, barbed wire, staples and nails of the "Pittsburgh Perfect" brands as are of special interest to the farmer, beside practical suggestions on buying and erecting fence, and other miscellaneous information of value. The book comprises forty-eight pages, attractively bound in a colored cover, and is the most complete fence catalogue ever issued by this, and possibly any other fence company. The index enables one to instantly find what is wanted, and is an innovation in fence catalogues. All fence users should secure a copy, either from their dealers, or direct from the Company.

Baby Chick Trade.

Candee Incu-Brooder Produces Strong Chicks for Shipping.

There is no limit to the demand for baby chicks. This is the situation found by large poultry plants specializing in that line. When a man can hatch strong, vigorous chicks, he can quickly establish a reputation and will find a demand for all the stock he has to offer. The Candee Incu-Brooder is noted for such stock, and visitors to the Candee Experimental Farm are deeply impressed by that fact. Mr. Gardner Corning of Sunny Slope Farm, after examining chicks hatched in the Candee Incu-Brooder, ranging in age from twenty-four hours to three months wrote:

"Standing in a class by themselves, these chicks had the large eyes, the big legs and the deep down on their bodies, which are a sure indication of vigor and health."

Candee Incu-Brooder chicks, because of their strength and vitality, bring superior prices. Complete information can be had from the Candee Incubator and Brooder Company, Dept. 18, DeWitt, New York.

Buckeye Incubator Startles Country With Big Hatches.

Poultry raisers all over the United States are being stirred to great enthusiasm by the big hatches turned out by the Buckeye incubators.

This, the manufacturers claim, is the only incubator in America guaranteed to hatch every hatchable egg and keep in perfect working order for five years.

No other incubator, the makers claim, has stood the acid test of time—been 22 years on the market and over 225,000 machines now in successful operation. Truly a most remarkable record, considering the fierce competition in this line.

And the beauty of buying a Buckeye incubator is this—you don't buy "a pig in a poke." There are Buckeye dealers from coast to coast in practically every city and town, where the incubators can be personally inspected and thoroughly examined, which, after all, is the most satisfactory way to buy anything—and especially an incubator.

Up to this year, Buckeye Incubators

were made in one size only; but owing to the enormous demand of poultry raisers for a wider range of sizes, the manufacturers are now putting out a 60 egg, 110 egg and 220 egg machine—selling as low as \$8.00.

Everybody interested in poultry should write the Buckeye Incubator Co., 517 Euclid Ave., Springfield, Ohio, for "Incubator Facts," a copy of their guarantee, and the name of the nearest dealer where the Buckeye Incubator can be seen.

Sixty Day Freight Paid Offer.

During the months of September and October, Bent's Milk Albumen can be secured at the regular price, freight paid to your station. This product has been before the American poultrymen for over seven years—Mr. Bent being the originator of dry milk for fowls—and it is now well known as one of the best animal foods for fowls at all ages. The manufacturers report that it is used and highly endorsed by many experiment stations and prominent poultrymen in all parts of the United States and foreign countries. It is economical and efficient, the protein content being entirely albumenoid, over 43 per cent., with no waste, and keeps sweet and good indefinitely in any climate.

Skim milk is now generally recognized as one of the very best of animal foods, and this product is practically skim milk in dry form. Commencing with one factory, the manufacturers ship from nine points in New York and Ohio. Many times they have been unable to fill orders, but now have a greatly increased output, hence the above offer for a limited time.

It affords an excellent opportunity to lay in your supply of animal food for the winter. Send for free sample and folder to Bent-Croissant Co., Box 9, Antwerp, N.Y.

A History of Oculum.

Five years ago a Virginia poultryman realizing the great and growing value of the poultry industry of this country and the tremendous losses annually from germ diseases, determined to find the cause of this great mortality, and, if possible, find a cure. He soon found by many experiments that the cause of Cholera, Roup, White Diarrhea in chickens, Blackhead in turkeys, Going light in pigeons, Leg weakness in ducks, was a germ which destroyed the membranous lining of the ceca, or blind intestinal pouches of the fowl. It was afterwards found that his diagnosis of these diseases was exactly in accord-

ance with the diagnosis made by the United States Agricultural Department, and the Storrs Experimental Station of Connecticut. He then found in Oculum, a germicide that would cure by inoculation per the rectum, the most virulent types of these dread diseases. He spent three years demonstrating Oculum locally until he proved its merit beyond all question to those fortunate enough to observe his experiments.

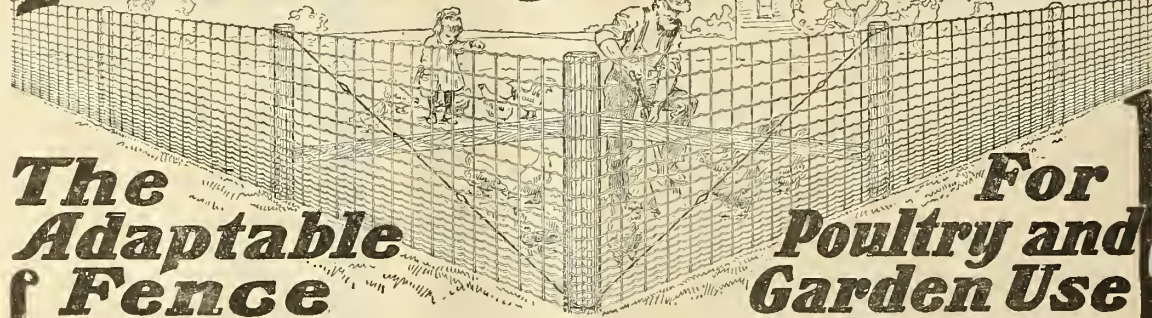
During the summer of 1909 he demonstrated Oculum for 50 days on the large plant of Mr. M. G. McClung at Salem, Va. Mr. McClung had lost 3800 little chicks during April and May, out of a total of 4200. Oculum stood the test and the plant was freed from disease; and the next year, 1910, 2000 chicks were hatched from inoculated hens. They were hatched in the same incubators, brooded in the same brooders, and run on the same infected land; and the loss from these diseases was less than 5 per cent. After this most thorough and successful demonstration, Mr. McClung organized a \$50,000 corporation. All the stock was locally subscribed. Representatives were sent to the leading poultry plants of the country to demonstrate Oculum, and in not one instance did it fail in its mission. It was demonstrated for weeks and months on the plants of A. C. Hawkins, C. H. Latham, U. R. Fishel, Foxhurst Farms, Grove Hill Poultry Yards, Bradley Bros., and others, and it now has their unqualified endorsement, by testimonials the like of which have never before been given by these prominent breeders to any remedy.

Oculum, wherever it has been introduced in this great nation, has electrified the people, and the testimonials and orders are coming to the Company from all parts of the country. The rise of Oculum is phenomenal. The need for it has been most seriously felt by the poultry world for many years.

Its advertisements can be found in the leading poultry journals of the country, any of which will speak a good word for Oculum, a co-operation prompted by the wonderful successes achieved by users of this great remedy. Oculum will be to poultry what Vaccine Virus has been to man, and before many years it will, it is predicted, very materially increase the poultry industry of this vast nation, which now totals \$1,000,000,000.

It is manufactured in two sizes, \$1.00 and 50c. Sample 10c., fully guaranteed to every consumer. Write the Hancock Inoculation Company, Box 11, Salem, Va., for a bottle.

"Pittsburgh Perfect"



Among the 145 styles and sizes of "Pittsburgh Perfect" Fence shown in our new catalogue, the fence user can now obtain fencing *perfectly suited* to his *particular* requirements. "Pittsburgh Perfect" is the most adaptable, portable, durable and resultful of all wire fences, and gives absolute satisfaction because, coupled with our ripened manufacturing experience, it is the culmination of close and exhaustive study and investigation of farmers' needs along lines of up-to-date poultry and agricultural methods and equipment.

Open Hearth Wire, like old time iron wire, is used exclusively in "Pittsburgh Perfect" Fence, and is galvanized with a thorough and even coating of pure zinc, which resists rust for the longest time. All line and stay wires are **ELECTRICALLY WELDED** at every contact point, producing a perfect amalgamation of metals, and doubling the strength of the fence at the joints. This feature is found only in "Pittsburgh Perfect" Fence, and makes it unequalled for toughness, strength and economy in weight and price.

EVERY ROD GUARANTEED PERFECT. OUR NEW CATALOGUE contains valuable information about wire fencing, and illustrates styles and sizes adapted to every FIELD, FARM, RANCH, LAWN and POULTRY purpose. Write for *now*, and then look up the best dealer in your town—he handles "Pittsburgh Perfect" Fence exclusively.

PITTSBURGH STEEL CO., PITTSBURGH, PA.

Manufacturers of "Pittsburgh Perfect" Brands of Barbed Wire, Bright, Annealed and Galvanized Wire, Fence Staples, Standard Wire Nails, and "Pittsburgh Perfect" Fencing, all made of Open Hearth Material

